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ABSTRACT

Governors of 30 states having significant Indian populations were invited to this conference to create better intergovernmental relations in Indian affairs. State involvement was stressed in formulating Federal policy and services, as was allowing the Indians to participate in planning programs affecting them. At the conference, officials from the Bureau of Indian affairs explained various successful and unsuccessful programs. Special reports on Indian Affairs in Arizona, Oklahoma, Nevada, and Minnesota were given, as well as individual reports from the other 26 states. A summary of the conference is included along with complete conference proceedings and a list of all participants. (EL)

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FEDERAL-STATE INDIAN AFFAIRS CONFERENCE

Sahara Tahoe Hotel, Lake Tahoe
Stateline, Nevada

August 19-21, 1969

National Council on Indian Opportunity
Office of the Vice President
Washington, D. C.

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Vice President Spiro T. Agnew invited the Governors of thirty states having significant Indian populations to send delegates to this conference. In calling for the conference, he scored its importance in creating better intergovernmental relations in Indian affairs:

"...states must be involved in the formulating process of Federal policy if we are to make maximum use of our resources to solve these critical problems."

"...termination of Federal services will not be a policy of the Nixon Administration."

"Furthermore, the right of self-determination of the Indian people will be respected and their participation in planning their own destiny will be encouraged by full consultation on programs affecting them."

Robert Robertson
Acting Executive Director
National Council on Indian Opportunity
September 1, 1969
Washington, D. C.

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SPECIAL NOTES

1. Most of the second day of the conference, with the exception of the special report given for the State of Arizona by Mr. Stan Womer, was taken up by the Federal officials (listed in the Appendix) who gave presentations on their respective departments and the programs being offered.

   Most of the Federal officials handed out or made available materials pertaining to their respective departments; they also answered questions from the floor.

   Since the principle purpose of this conference was to learn from the states in attendance how cooperation between the Indians and the states and Federal government can be bettered, we have not attempted to record in this document the comments of the "Indian desk" officials.

2. During the morning session of the third day, Thursday, August 21, the newly appointed Commissioner of Indian Affairs, the Honorable Louis R. Bruce, Jr., was introduced to all present at the conference.

MR. ROBERTSON: Ladies and gentlemen, we are about to begin our two and one half day Indian Affairs Conference at the Sahara Tahoe Hotel, Lake Tahoe, Nevada. My name is Bob Robertson, I am Acting Executive Director of the National Council on Indian Opportunity and I extend to you a welcome to Lake Tahoe. I leave the proper welcomes to the dignitaries at the head table who will follow me. It is good to have all of you with us at this first-time-ever conference and we certainly hope, all of us, that we'll be able to learn from you what we on the Federal level can do better to assist you in the big jobs that you have in your respective states.

I'd like at this time, skipping the head table, to introduce a few of the dignitaries here I'd like you to meet and get to know over the next two and a half days. If I may, I'll save the introductions of the Indian desk professionals from the departments and agencies until near the end of the program. I want to identify them so that during the conference you'll be able to get to know them personally and so you'll have access to them to have any questions you might have answered. At this time I would like to introduce, first, Mr. Lewis A. Sigler, Counsel to the Interior Committee and Staff Assistant to the Subcommittee on Indian Affairs, the United States House of Representatives. Mr. Sigler. (Applause)

Next, as I come down the list, and it is not in alphabetical order or anything, my apologies gentlemen, Mr. Charles Leppert, Jr., Assistant Council, the Interior Committee, United States House of Representatives. (Applause). Moving over to the United States Senate, Mr. James H. Gamble, Staff Assistant, Subcommittee on Indian Affairs, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, the United States Senate. (Applause). Mr. Charles F. Cook, Jr., Minority Council, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, United States Senate. (Applause). Due to a change in the roster, I take great pleasure in introducing at this time a gentleman we met several months ago on a very interesting, eye-opening trip to the State of Maine, Governor John Stevens of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, Peter Dana Point, State of Maine. Governor. (Applause). And to all of the rest of you dignitaries, a warm welcome to Lake Tahoe.

At this time I take great pleasure in introducing a gentleman who is playing an ever increasingly important role in the activities of the Council. On behalf of the Vice President of the United States, Mr. C. D. Ward.

MR. WARD: Thank you Bob. First of all I want to extend the greetings of the Vice President to the governor's representatives attending this meeting and to thank all of you for coming to this "hardship outpost." I look forward to being here with you for the next two and a half days.

I'm sure all of you know, but for the benefit of some of the observers here in the room, the Vice President is Chairman of the National Council on Indian Opportunity which is sponsoring this meeting and one of the techniques and philosophies the Vice President has in approaching any problem which involves intergovernmental relations or interaction between any Federal agency and state or private group is more of a partnership role. I'll give you an example of that. When he became Governor of Maryland, one of the first things he did was to assemble his Cabinet and to visit the twenty-one counties of Maryland, which is the more important form of local government within that state, and the city of Baltimore, to find out what the local officials felt the State of Maryland should be doing to better improve the working relationship between the two, find out what the state was doing right and what it was doing wrong, and to get an input from the local officials on how to face the problems which were confronting both the state and local officials.

So, as he took over his responsibilities in the Indian Council he determined that one of the things he wanted to do was to call a meeting of the chief representatives of the Governors of those states which had significant Indian populations and to have them meet with the key staff officials in the various Federal departments and the key staff officials of the Congressional committees to find out what the states felt that we should be doing in this field. What are we doing right? What are we doing wrong? What are your experiences which could be of benefit to the Federal Government in approaching this very serious problem? Consequently, the reason for this meeting today.

Bill Carmack will be talking more about the Council in the future, but the prime thrust for us is to gather recommendations from you gentlemen to take back to the Council itself for their consideration. Of course, this will be only one aspect of the overall approach of the Council. There will be meetings with Indian leaders and other types of private and public officials who have a concern and responsibility in this area.

So, with that brief bit of background I want you to know how pleased I am to be here with you. I am not an expert on Indians at all. I look forward to listening to what you all have to say, and I thank you all for coming and look forward to working with you over the coming months.

We also want you to take a message to your Governors that the Vice President does appreciate your being here. He will be meeting with them himself in about three weeks at the Governor's conference. We hope that you would have had an opportunity to discuss this meeting with them and they, in turn, with the Vice President later on in the summer; then as time goes on working with you through the Council on this very important problem.

I did not want to say anything from a prepared text, but I think it is very important to stress two things which the Vice President states in his press release announcing this meeting. He repeated the statement President Nixon made last September, to the National Congress of the American Indian in Omaha, that the Nixon Administration will not have a policy of termination, but, rather, one of self-determination. (Applause) The Vice President is keenly award, as is President Nixon, that termination is not going to be the way in which we proceed in this area. Thank you. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you Mr. Ward. I think that before I introduce our next honored guest, I'll preface the introduction with a statement of fact. Until the first week of April of this year, I was Executive Administrator to Governor Paul Laxalt of the State of Nevada and in the many years preceeding that, and through my tour of duties with Governor Laxalt before I went to Washington, I came to know this gentleman very well. We have been on horseback pack trips into the wilderness country. He is considered, at least in my book, a foremost conservationist. He is an outstanding State Senator, former U. S. Congressman and outstanding attorney and just an all round-great guy. I really cannot say anything more that would really do justice to this gentleman. I take great pleasure at this time, sincerely, in introducing Senator Cliff Young, State of Nevada, (Applause) speaking on behalf of Governor Laxalt.

SENATOR CLIFF YOUNG: Thank you Bob for the kind introduction. I wish my mother had been here to hear those kind words.

It is a great pleasure on behalf of Governor Laxalt who is unable to be here today because of a prior commitment, to extend to you a cordial welcome to the State of Nevada and all best wishes for a successful conference.

There is an Indian legend about Lake Tahoe. At one time it was inhabited by evil demons. Demons who were killed by a courageous young brave who was seeking the hand of the Chief's daughter in marriage. Some feel, however, that the demons are not extinct, but that in fact they live on today, and are found in these unpredictable sometimes vexatious games of chance that you may encounter in our local establishments. I cannot resolve that question myself, perhaps your own research during the next few days will shed some light upon that difficult problem.

It is said that a conference is composed of individuals who can do nothing and who collectively conclude or decide that nothing can be done. I am sure that in view of the urgency of the problem which we face that this will not be the dominant theme of this convention. In some way, I think it is entirely appropriate that a conference of this type, the first of its particular characteristics, I understand, to explore Federal-state cooperation, should be held in the State of Nevada for no state is more restive under the overwhelming and pervasive affect of Federal influence than Nevada with some 86 percent of its land under Federal control.

Federalism has been defined, as perhaps many of you have long since heard, as a form of government which produces apoplexy at the center and anemia at the extremeties. If experts are anybody fifty miles from home, certainly there is no shortage of expertise in our Nation's capitol. But all too often an expert is one who avoids the small error but sweeps on to the grand fallacy.

I am sure that we all agree that there is a serious problem in connection with what is being done for and on behalf of our Indian citizens. Only yesterday UPI carried a story of a staff report being prepared by the Senate Indian Education Subcommittee which indicated that in its preliminary draft that the Indian problem is challenging some of our basic precepts of democracy. It challenges some of our most precious assumptions of a pluralistic cultural system, freedom of the individual, the integrity of the individual, and the right of the pursuit of happiness. It points out that over the years the dominant theme has been a forced assimilation. Sometimes characterized by coercion, sometimes by persuasion, but I think we can all agree that it has not been marked by extreme success. The news release indicated that some 700,000 Americans now speak three hundred languages and that this program has neither taught the Indian population how to use English with facility, nor has it preserved the cultural heritage.

The emphasis on education has pointed out how one out of four hundred Indians would graduate from high school, how the drop out rate is twice the national average, how the achievement record is two years below the national average. It is a sad commentary upon a system designed to help adjust our Indian citizens to a fast moving twentieth century environment.

This program has not been successful in the past decades, how much less likely is it to be successful in the days ahead with an ever excellerating rate of change?

I was reading only last night that a dinosaur is a lizard hatched by the Federal government. The comparison is not entirely lacking because just as an apt terrifying beast of an earlier age was unable to cope with the problems it found in its environment, the BIA has apparently not been able to cope with the problems it has encountered during the past century.

Though we are at a critical stage, I think there is also an opportunity here. The Chinese in their idiographs have one character which means crisis. It is composed of two symbols; one means danger and the other means opportunity. I think we have presented at this juncture in our history, an opportunity not only to show that democracy is capable of solving problems such as this, but helping our disadvantaged first American citizens as well.

As a former legislator I cannot help but comment, though, that in a democracy changes are inevitably going to be slow. It is fashionable to criticize the BIA, but I don't think that the rest of us who are not in the Bureau can as easily shuck off our responsibility, because by our action or inaction we have made the Bureau of Indian Affairs, our government agencies, what they are today.

James Russell Lowell aptly put it when he said that democracy gives each man the opportunity to be his own oppressor. So if there is a failure here, it is a responsibility on the part of all of us to work together to see what can be done.

I'd like to leave with you this thought, it is a quotation from Mr. Burnham who was an architect at the Chicago Exposition at the turn of the century. He said, "Make no little plans, plan big in work and play, remembering that a noble logical diagram will be here long after we are gone asserting itself with an ever growing insistence." I hope that your efforts here will be productive of such a plan. I hope that you will find the conference is as stimulating as the waters of Lake Tahoe, as pleasant as the scenery which surrounds it and as profitable as the pleasure domes which grace its shores. We wish you a very successful convention. (Applause) Thank you.

MR. ROBERTSON: At this point in the agenda I was to introduce the new Commissioner of Indian Affairs who has been unavoidably detained and who, hopefully, will arrive on the scene very shortly, the Honorable Louis R. Bruce.

In April when I went back to Washington and was asked by Mr. Agnew to work with the NCIO, I had the great pleasure of working with the gentleman who at that time had been asked by the Vice President to remain on as Acting Executive Director. The gentleman I am referring to is Dr. William Carmack. Over the months that passed, the friendship I have for Bill has grown and that friendship is in direct proportion to the respect that I have for him as a human being and for him as a person with an encyclopedic knowledge of the problems of interest to Indians today. I take great pleasure at this time in introducing my predecessor Dr. William Carmack, Assistant to the Commissioner of the BIA for Community Development. Bill. (Applause)

DR. CARMACK: Thank you Bob. Thank you very much as a matter of fact that was extremely generous of you. I think I know a sizeable percentage of you, not everyone, but those of you who do know me know it is my custom usually not to prepare all that specifically. I enjoy meetings on Indian affairs and I usually am able to get some ideas, preferably some controversial ideas, from previous speakers that I can comment on, but Senator Young you just did not suggest anything at all that was controversial enough to spark in me a response. I think that Senator Young did a very interesting thing, he did a great deal more for us than a proforma welcome as a state official. I think he presented his own point of view and did so very candidly. No one who is here could fail to find much in that point of view with which to agree, I suspect similarly that no one is here who could agree with everything as suggested in such brief and yet pointed remarks.

As delegates to this meeting, our interests are not identical. Our backgrounds are not similar, our circumstances and opportunities are not the same. I think that one of the great yokes that has been hung around the neck of the American Indian from the very beginning of his relationships with government - Federal government, state government, any government - is the urgent tendency on the part of well-meaning, well motivated people to "solve the Indian problem." There are so many things wrong with that ambition that it just almost stops one cold. In the first place, there is no Indian problem. There are problems of particular concern to Indians that are community problems and by and large and governmental problems -- but they are not uniquely Indian problems. In the second place Indian circumstances differ so extremely from Maine to Florida and from that huge land in the Four Corners where the Navajo live to the tundra where the Indians, Aleuts and Eskimos of Alaska live, some in urban circumstances, some in rural, some well-to-do, some in poverty, some learned, some deprived of educational opportunity. How could we expect out of that diversity and cultural dissimilarity a eureka, one big wonderful solution that would "solve the Indian problem."

I am supposed to keynote. I asked what I was supposed to do in connection with keynoting and I was told that I was supposed to attempt to set somewhat of a frame or a mood or a set of presumptions that those of us at this conference could keep in the backs of our minds.

So presumption number one is, we are not here to "solve the Indian problem." That would be an overly simplified view of the situation. I am glad you all came, I have never in all my life seen such unanamous reception of an invitation to a conference. When Bob Robertson mentioned the site, I said well I have never been there so

I can't say, but do you think people will come? Is it easy to get to: He said, "they will come" and they did. To a man. I was going to commend you on coming to Lake Tahoe, but now I want to particularly commend you on coming to the Alpine Room. I got to Lake Tahoe and I am now prepared to guide you if you need to find anything but the Alpine Room in this marvelous hotel facility.

Actually, Senator, again you have anticipated one of my customary introductions. I have been mercifully identified as the former Executive Director of the NCIO and I thought we would let it alone and then Bob insisted on further adding that I am the Assistant Commissioner in the BIA, and so I thought perhaps to save time in the general question and answer discussion and floor comments later we might all not take a minute for silent prayer, but take a minute and all speak simultaneously and denounce the BIA. And then having paid proper homeage to that physic itch we might go ahead and talk about Indians. In my conversations with people about Indians I like to say,"now let's establish that I am with the BIA. Then let's establish that the Bureau hasn't done anything right that anyone knows about. Then, lets talk about Indians. You know, I don't know why it is even Indians when you invite them to talk about Indians wind up talking about the BIA. You'd think that one little old government bureaucracy wouldn't enjoy such high priority attention on the part of those who are concerned with Indians.

As we discuss Indian affairs the thing that strikes me as pretty important in this meeting is the diversity of your own experiences. I know that some of you state people have been involved in some kinds of activities that the others here need to know about. They do not all cost money and they do not all have to be administered by the BIA. What I started to say awhile ago was that the BIA's posture reminds me very much of AID's posture in the State Department a couple of decades ago when it was ICA. That American Aid effort was considered catastrophic for many years by the world press. Everything we tried to do we did wrong. We sent catapillars to Iran but no parts and we built roads in Pakistan that led nowhere. You remember those stories, you don't hear them anymore, do you? It is an interesting thing. You don't hear at all about the fiascos that AID has promulgated around the world. Now there are two reasons for that. One is that AID is getting a little better and the second is that it no longer has a monopoly on foreign aid. The Soviet Union is vastly less amused now about our difficulties in working with developing nations toward community development. Now that they have decided to invest a little money in the same kind of activity they have found that people don't program quite like the social science teachers promise you in advance that they will. They have a way of elevating their own priorities sometimes over what the big daddy had had in mind for them. The BIA is similar to that. The BIA is getting both a little more effective but also a number of other federal agencies are getting in the act a little bit and I find now that my Federal friends tend to approach me with a good bit more sympathy and understanding than was previously true before they began to work closely with Indian communities.

Since we have the people here who work with Indian communities, I am going to try if I may to suggest about four things. I would like to give you a biased, personal, prejudiced view of the current situation in American Indian affairs. I do not represent the Council, I do not represent the Commissioner or the BIA, I am just giving you my own personal bias about where we stand. I would like to suggest for you the challenge that I think I see today and I tend to agree with Senator Young that it is a unique challenge. It did not pertain 10 years ago and it may not pertain in 10 years but I do believe I see something unique. I would like to suggest a few simple things we might consider doing about it and then I would like to close with a statement about the significance of the whole matter. What is important about Indian affairs. It does indeed, as you know, occupy a great deal of time and attention.

They say there are a lot of myths about Indians, and I know it is true. Some think they get a Federal check every month for being Indians. I will tell you another myth about Indians. That Indians are the "Forgotten American." That is not so. There is no comparable percentage of our population that receives as much wording, verbiage, as much discussion and conversation, exposure and publicity. He is not the Forgotten American. I live in the East. There are not all that many Indians in the East, nothing like the states out here where we are in the western part of the country. But nevertheless few days go by but what the Washington Post, an eastern metropolitan daily, runs a story, or an editorial or column about Indians. The New York Times devotes enormous coverage to Indian affairs. Almost daily the Congressional Record has remarks from the House of Representatives or from the Senate pertaining to some aspect of Indian affairs. In the 89th Congress, sixteen percent, I am told (the gentleman here from Congress can correct me if I am wrong) of the legislation that was introduced pertained to Indians. Pronouncements, seminars, symposia colloqui at Lake Tahoe at the University of Oklahoma, at everywhere.

I have to smile when people tell me about the "Forgotten American." Now, let me hasten to say that I didn't say all that much action was taking place in Indian affairs, I said there is that much talk about Indian affairs. I would hate to know right now of those of us in the room how many meetings we have been to this month pertaining to Indian affairs. Of course, we are a biased audience. This nation is interested in Indian affairs. The Congress of the United States is interested in Indian affairs. This Executive Administration and the former one were both interested in Indian affairs. Much talk, many columns, many speeches, much palaver. Relatively little action.

Now I can tell you why. Because the field is highly frustrating. It is difficult to act wisely and intelligently in connection with these matters so what one does, especially if one is not Indian, is tend to this escape technique. I learned while studying group dynamics in college that when you get into a situation that you want to reject you often leave it physically. But if it is a captive situation and you are not allowed to leave physically you often indicate through your speech your lack of identification with the purposes of the thing. We are prone to do the same thing in reverse - substitute verbal sanctions for positive action. I think that is what we do in Indian affairs. We substitute talk for action and those of us who are not Indians who are sympathetic for and interested in Indian affairs and hesitate to act decisively tend to demonstrate to our Indian friends the sincerity of our interest by what we say. So we go around extolling the "First American" and Indian rights and we hôpe in that way to be thought of as an activist in the field of Indian affairs.

I think that today another myth I would like to discuss is this: We have no national purpose in Indian affairs. I submit to you that we do. I submit to you that today, young and old, reservation and urban, Republican and Democrat, Indian and non-Indian, most professionally concerned and personally interested people in Indian affairs could agree on a general statement of aim. I submit that most could. I would suggest that we had about ten or twelve representatives from various seven or eight Federal departments here. We have not discussed this together but it would be interesting to ask them to take a sheet of paper and write broad general terms, what they think the national purpose is and should be in connection with American Indians. I will bet you would be shocked at the similarity of both the ideas and the words. We would all use the word self-determination. We would all agree. Now there was a time when that was not true. You may say, "why we have always known that." No we haven't. Any historian of Indian affairs knows very well that we haven't. In very recent years we have vacilated wildly in connection with our national purpose in Indian affairs. I do not think we would today. I think we would all agree that the arbitrary, unilateral withdrawal of Federal relationships and special services is unfair and inappropriate. I think we would further agree that self-determination and administration of services by communities themselves is very important. I think we would say that local involvement must be the first criterion and I think we would say that community-based planning should undergird and be the focus in all of our national efforts. I think we would say that Indians ought to be accorded the same options and opportunities that other people have. We would probably use those very words. I think we would say that Indian people ought to be accorded every possible opportunity to preserve those aspects of their culture which still exist, should they choose to do so, but they should not be coerced. I think we would say that, for example, opportunities to move into the so-called mainstream and intergrate into the larger community, ought to be made available but not coercive. I think we would say that there is no general solution to the Indian problem but that we ought to approach each community and each tribe and each situation one by one with great flexibility. I really believe that most of us would agree on these things.

I think that we could agree that, a) the Indian is not the Forgotten American, b) at a very abstract level there is fundamental accord and fundamental concensus in this nation as to the general nature of the direction that we ought to attempt to implement in cooperation with Indians. I think we would agree that Indians themselves must provide the impetuous, the stimulus, the priorities, the directions, the goals for these programs. Now, why then do we always fall completely apart at this point in the discussion. We get this far, but when we begin to voice concrete ideas we cannot agree. And so when we begin to operationalize we have some trouble.

Now, let's not buy out too cheaply here. Let's not say "well the trouble of course is money." I get tired of that, the trouble is not only money. It may be true that we have never made enough investment in Indian affairs. Alright, I am going to shock you, I am going to suggest to you that I'm not embarrassed, as an employee of the Federal Government about the level of Federal spending in connection with Indian affairs. Let me show you why. If you go back in history maybe thirty years and you analyze carefully Federal expenditures in Indian affairs you will find it pretty much on a plateau. You will find programs like the little housing program that the BIA runs called the housing improvement program. It use to be funded at a million dollars a year, every year, year in and year out. You know, not nine hundred and ninety nine thousand dollars, not a million and ten dollars but a million dollars a year. The Law and Order program, agriculture and extension program, I could go on and on and on. The same dollar funding, with some mild variation, year in and year out at a very grossly under-funded level. So that almost nothing effective was possible. In 1957 the total Federal expenditure for Indian programs generally in all of the government, was $78 million a year, 99 percent of that was administered by the BIA. Now if I am not mistaken, according to the BOB which did research on this last year, the Federal expenditure on Indian programs is about $500 million. Now, the budget of expenditure in Indian affairs has gone up in a very sharp trajectory. You can ask if the Government is spending enough money. The answer varies according to your time frame. If you say, has the Government spent enough money in the past to realistically implement programs that they articulate for Indians, the answer is, of course, no. If you say, now today, this year and next year, is the government making a sizeable enough investment, I would still say no, but I would not say it with a ring of conviction that I would have said it earlier. I would say this, the Government's investment in programs of interest to Indian people has increased substantially recently, Take for example, Indian education. Until the Navajo themselves after the Second World War committed themselves tribally to the support of education for their children through Government schools our investment in education was nothing like it is today. I do not know what it is today counting construction, but it is significantly more than it has been. If we sustain the kinds of increases that have been made available by Congress in the last few years I believe none of us will have occasion to be embarrassed about the magnitude of the Federal commitment to Indian programs. Now I have tried to word this very carefully. I have not said I am satisfied, I have not said it is enough, but I have said it is not as embarassing as it would have been at a very recent point in history. If we sustain the kind of priority that budgets in Indian affairs enjoy that would indicate to me a high priority on Indian programs. What I am trying to say is, let's not buy out at this conference too cheaply by simply saying oh well, yes we all know what we ought to do but of course the Congress just doesn't give us enough money. Now, we are getting some money, friends, we are getting sizeable amounts of money. We ought to be asking what are we doing with the money and through whom are we utilizing the money and to what effect. Let's talk about the tools we have got, not simply our problems. I will give you a personal bias of mine. I do not believe that if you doubled our budget it would make us a bit wiser. I suspect that every mistake I made last year I would make twice if I had twice the staff and twice the money. Now, as I say, do not use that on me later because I have just a little less than I need right now.

Let's look at another evidence of interest in Indians affairs. I hate speakers who ask conferees to hold up their hands but I will do it anyway. We have thirty states represented here. Many of which, if you read the roster that you have got before you, have councils and commissions and committees either appointed by the governor or established by the legislature on Indian affairs. Most I trust, I hope, involving Indian staff and Indian membership. I wonder how many of those existed before ten years ago. Are there any of you here from a state that has had a special Governor's or legislative council or commission solely on Indian affairs that has existed for over ten years? Where Sir - New York State, Maine, Arizona, Utah, Minnesota, South Dakota, well. That illustrates that I am wrong in that point. (Laughter) No, maybe I am not wrong, the percentages are still with me and we play by percentages out here. I do not care if five of you are ten years old. I want to assert now in my role as your keynote speaker that the states have made a vastly increased effort in Indian affairs in recent years. In spite of the five far-sighted states that have been at it so long. I should ask you wise guys who just held up your hands what your budget is and that would get us back on an even keel. Some of the states which have identified commissions have not been generous in connection with budgetary priorities for those commissions. But at least those commissions are new tools.

I have seen at the state level a lot of new interests, that represent a tool. These Federal programs represent a tool. As I have said it is a better tool than it was 12 years ago. It is still not the ultimate weapon, but it is a good tool. Seven major departments of the Government are now administering programs of special concern to Indians. Seven, not one. There are all kinds of Federal people here now for you to talk to, not just the BIA. States are interested and are establishing commissions and this is all to the good. There are many universities now developing Indian programs. I got a letter from the University of Montana two days ago indicating that they have established a chair of Indian affairs and filled it with a professor. That is good news. I got a phone call from a college president in Texas who wants to set up a group of counselors who are themselves Indian young people, get in touch with Indian youth who are interested in higher education, and assist them on his campus. These are tools that the universities did not make available to us ten, fifteen, five, three, two, one year ago even. A philanthropic foundation that I know of last year invested 50 percent of its total grant funds in Indian affairs. American Indians United is a nationwide new urban Indian organization that has not existed for a year and has already received funding from another foundation. That's new. The National Congress of American Indians has grown in stature and strength and influence with the Congress and with the Administration in recent years. So, I hope that we won't simply sit here at Lake Tahoe and have a "baby needs new shoes" conference.

You know the facts, I know the facts. 40 percent unemployment, 57,000 homes inadequate, 3/4's of those non-repairable and other grave indicators of need. We know those things and that may be what you expected in this speech, but I think we ought to shift that focus now to see if we have got a new opportunity and see what of a constructive nature we can do. Another new opportunity centers around Indian youth educated, Indian leadership. I know people in this room who can far better than I see the growing influence of Indian youth through higher education. I may be wrong, but I am going to just flatly assert that there are more Indian young people in college and graduate school today than attended either within the last decade.

Alright, now, I'd better turn the thing around before I totally discredit myself by appearing to be optimistic which one is not supposed to be in connection with Indian affairs. I am not complacent. I am optimistic, I admit that, but I am not complacent. There are a number of problems that we face. I fear that we may not sustain our current level of national interest and support for Indian matters long enough to make the impact we need. The general public loses its interest in things all too readily and when they do political leaders tend also to shift their attention, as I suppose they should, to those things of immediate concern to their constituents. I fear that we may not be able to sustain the keen edge of interest and good will that attends Indian matters. We had better move now, if we don't act, but continue to complain about the inadequacies that surround us and continue to try to shock people with even more horrible statistics about our circumstances it will finally bore people. We must suggest instead, what we want to do and come forth with something that has some promise. I believe people will invest in us if we will do something that is imaginative and courageous. I think the time is ripe for action.

We must sustain this level of public support long enough to allow time for so many of our programs which have a delayed pay-off. Now if we could come up with the big eureka, we could sell it today but what about coming up with a proposal of strong firm support for education for Indian young people for 25 years. That is quite another matter isn't it. We had better try to be imaginative in this conference if we can. We must seek a way to get together and cooperate in a pattern of strength that will cause the public to support us long enough to carry out some of the long range strategies that we tend to agree on.

Alright, despite the good will, the new outside programs, there is a paradox -- Indians aren't that well off. If I want to keep my optimism about Indians and about Indian affairs and still believe the things that I have been telling you are really true and really trending in positive direction I got to do one small thing. It is a little bit of a sacrifice but I am able to do it. I have got to stay out of Indian communities. Because when I leave an Indian community I nearly always leave depressed. So if you want me to be the optimistic spokesman that I sometimes pretend to be, I have got to stay off the reservation. I was on the Pyramid Lake Reservation yesterday and that was a big mistake. There are ten acres on the Pyramid Lake Reservation in non-Indian hands. This seems to be the only tourist activity commercially profitable now going on in the entire Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation. The tribe, as far as I can tell, is deriving virtually no benefit from their vast potential in natural resources, but someone else who has managed to get a lot there through acumen, or access to capital, or whatever, has been able to take only 10 square acres, and as it appears, do very nicely, On the other hand, there were a number of people camping in that beautiful setting on the lake and we asked two members of the Council who were there how much the tribe derives from what must be a very popular camping site. They said nothing. I guess the tribe has the benefit of cleaning up, if they had any use for paper cups and beer cans I suppose they could derive a considerable profit from it, but as it stands now, nothing. Or I could mention Ft. Hall, I had a very pleasant day on the Ft. Hall Indian Reservation. I am not mentioning now the very tough so-called non-viable communities. I am talking about the ones with the resources. Borders adjacent to urban areas. Incalcuable wealth in land. Vast vast resources. What does it look like out there? Drive around. Car bodies, shanties, idleness, unemployment, dispair, lack of opportunity, full jails.

There is something seriously wrong. I am not going to try to place blame. I would have to take some of it I am afraid. After all those things I said about the tools, about the resources, about the new interest, about the universities, the foundations, the states, all those other Federal agencies coming in, but the end-product as yet is bleak, dreary, depressing.

Maybe now I can suggest two or three general possible approaches. Number one I think is a little technical in nature, I cannot forbear to say it anyway. It has mostly to do with the Federal Government but it may be true some at the state level also. Let us please remember we are dealing with people. In designing and implementing programs of concern to American Indians, efficiently should not be the prime criterion. I wish the budget examiners, who examine the budgets of the seven departments with Indian programs, had been included in this conference. When prime stress is on efficiency, human development seldom results. I'll give you an example, I was on the Flathead Indian Reservation, interesting one in Montana, meeting with the tribal council and also later with the staff of the BIA, the whole staff. I learned that reservation has the biggest timber cut in the entire state, which is quite a lot. Over half the staff of the BIA agency is professional foresters and good ones, well trained, well recruited. They are managing Flathead forest for the Flathead Indians with a very low administrative overhead. And I think they can show you by chart how, over the years, they have become more and more efficient. But is that the goal? Is that what we want to do - manage the Indian's forest for him, more efficiently than we did it for his father and his grandfather.

If we get a computerized operation his son might really be the beneficiary of efficiency. Meanwhile where is the Indian owner? Sitting wishing he had a job or something to do? We should say to the forester, your real mission is to involve the community to the extent that they are willing to draw on your technical expertise or any that it is available now to them to manage their own area.

Mere delivery of services to communities efficiently is a poor criterion by which to measure services that are suppose to effect human beings and pertain to human motivation. Democracy, as every school boy has learned by the time he is in eighth grade civics, is an enormously inefficient system. Dictatorship, authoritarian governmental systems are always more efficient. It is much easier for one individual to boss everybody around. We have opted differently in this country. We have said that we are more interested in involvement in human development, in self-determination, than we are in mere efficiency. Now, once we have agreed on that verbally we turn right around and measure all of our programs by their efficiency. And if we cannot find a better way of either identifying our goals than we have been doing we are not going to be able to sell our programs very much longer and that may be a good thing.

Another suggestion that I would like to make is that we are very very inflexible in our approach to government programs. I say that based not on my knowledge of just one department but based on working with all Federal administrators of Indian programs and I believe my friends in the room who administer these programs will agree. We speak of flexibility and talk about local plans but let May and then early June come around and if we have still got money to spend there will be some fast community development taking place. We do not have the patience and our budget and funding structure is not conducive to the delay that is entailed in true local initiative. You know some people do not want what we want to give them when it is convenient budgetarily for us to justify it. They do not want it. That is why, my good friends, you will be amazed at two things if you take a tour of Indian country with me. You will be amazed at the abject poverty you will see everywhere you go and at the wonderful new huge empty buildings that are often there. They once had a factory that employed three Indians and 78 whites (three Federal agencies went together to underwrite the cost of it.) They will have a great huge chapter house that they did not know they needed until a lawyer explained it to them, or they will have some kind of fantastic piece of equipment instead of something else that they wanted. We just do not have the flexibility to honestly say that we are prepared to work with people on their own priorities. We are kidding them. If we really plan locally why is it that urban groups and rural groups all seem to discover at the same time that they all need legal services, or that they all need day care centers? How did they get along 150 years without a day care center then all of a sudden all over American from Maine to Florida to Harlem to Arizona decide that our problem is we have not had day care centers. Now I am not opposing day care centers but I am just suggesting that we are playing a game with Indian lawyers and tribal groups who are interested in getting as much money from the Government agencies as they can (and that is to their credit). They are finding out what we fund and then writing us and to say that they need - whatever - fill in the blank -- and we say "good" another example of local initative. There is a basic question communities must face when they get ready to grow industrially or change. Do they want industry? If they do not want industry they are not going to support industry in any way. They are not going to build the ancillary housing, the ancillary recreational facilities, the ancillary social support structure needed to make for successful growth.

You can see why I temper my optimism. I am saying we have got new tools, good tools, but somehow we haven't quite learned to use them effectively. I am trying to suggest two or three abstractions. Pay less worship to short run efficency. Try to be more flexible in our programs and coordinate more through local leadership to do what the local community wants to do.

Now, I have already alluded to the last little truth I wanted to cast before you and that is let's not burden ourselves with the awesome responsibility of coming to the answer here at Lake Tahoe. We will leave a question or two because this is a pleasant place and we may need to meet again. What is the significance of Indian affairs? Is it helping Indians? I do not think so. Sometimes people ask the total Federal expenditure for Indians and how many Indians there are. They divide the people into the dollars and say give them the money. Well, that is a pretty persuasive argument except that we forget that they then would not have streets, they would not have schools, they would not have hospitals and so on. So you might say, let's keep enough for schools, and keep enough for hospitals and a few other things and pretty soon we are back to the status quo. So maybe there is no answer; maybe the Government cannot be flexible; maybe Congress won't let us be flexible; maybe we don't want to be flexible; maybe we don't want the Indians to tell us what to do. If that is the case then the answer is to stop suggesting to them that they do so, because they are taking it seriously and they are trying to get ready and organized to do it.

The challenge is not just helping Indians. The "helped" are seldom helped. I have never seen anybody helped who enjoyed the experience.

I might ask you what do you want for your son. Now, how ridiculous would it sound if you were to say, "yes that is something I have thought about all my life." I work hard so my son can have a better life than I have." Well what do you want for your son? "Well, I want the doctor at the public service clinic to be well trained, I want him to enjoy good health so he can get in his sweat equity on the house later on. I want the extension agent to visit him once in a while." That is absurd, that is not what you want for your son. You want expanded opportunities, you want dignity, you want self-determination, you want de-administration, I think you want a lot of things more profound than just improved, more efficient, and even bigger services. So just "helping the Indians" is a wrong tactic, a wrong approach, I think.

The significance of Indian affairs is that it may well be the last chance that our pluralistic democracy has to raise the question of whether our nation can tolerate pluralism. So far we have effectively stamped out most cultures that assimilated into the mainstream. Now I know people frequently site the Jewish, particularly the more conservative strains of Jewry, as exceptions to this and there is a very interesting case to be made and a lot of things to say about that. But, I am still going to assert in spite of the danger of a generalization that typically our response has been to mold others to become like us. If you are different by virture of color, or education or station in life, or anything else, then we won't relate to you and if we have got the power you won't get it. That has been our response to most cultural subgroups. The Indian has retained not all but a significant portion of his background, his identity, and his culture. Now if we have to go the route that we have gone with most others and say that you either have to alienate yourself completely, or imitate our values and our ways, we will be missing our major opportunity in Indian affairs.

We can be proud of our response if we can commit ourselves to the principle of really working with Indian priorities and not simply imposing programs on them. This can give real meaning to our programs, both state and Federal.

Thank you for your attention. (Applause)

At this point on the agenda, Dr. Robert Pitchell of the National University Extension Association made comments about university extension education and how he feels it relates to the American Indian.

MR. ROBERTSON: Senator Young, I know you have a lot of business in your law office in Reno and I just want to say thank you for the provocative remarks you made earlier. Please extend our best wishes to Governor Paul Laxalt and our thanks to him for having asked you to come up to represent him. Thank you very much Cliff. (Applause)

Moving on very quickly now, we'll hold you several more minutes and then we will be done. We started this afternoon's session hearing from Mr. C. D. Ward, Assistant to the Vice President, and then of course, we heard the challenging remarks of Senator Young and the very moving and informative keynote address by Dr. Carmack which set the theme of this conference. And then of course, Dr. Pitchell and his remarks on behalf of the National University Extension Association.

Mr. Robertson then went on to ask each of the State Gubernatorial designees to stand and be identified. He also asked to have stand and be identified the Federal attendees at the Conference.

(N. B. A complete list of those attending the conference is attached to this report.)

Any my apologies to this gentleman for not having introduced him along with the dignataries from the House of Representatives and the U. S. Senate: Mr. Herschel Sahmount who is on the staff of Senator Henry Bellmon of Oklahoma. Ace here you are here? My apologies to you.

We are pleased to have coming to the conference a recipient of a White House fellowship from Albuquerque, New Mexico, Mr. Woodrow Sneed. Is Woody here? There you are in the back.

MR. C. D. WARD: I would like to say a word about Woody.

As you may or may not know, there's a program called the White House Fellows which has been in existance for about four years now. Sixteen of eighteen outstanding young men and women come and spend nine months in the Federal Government and they are assigned to Secretaries of the departments, the White House and the Office of the Vice President. This year one of those gentlemen is Woody Sneed who is currently the Assistant Director of the Council on Indian Law Studies in Albuquerque and Vice President Agnew has selected Woody to be his White House Fellow and will be working with, among other things, the National Council on Indian Opportunity. I'm glad you are here Woody.

MR. ROBERTSON: I was a little concerned Woody. We hadn't heard from you and I didn't get word from my offict that we finally heard that you had gotten your arrangements taken care of. Thank you for coming.

That fairly well wraps up our first session at this conference. Thank you very much and we will see you promptly tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m. Thank you very much.

MR. ROBERTSON: We are pleased at this time to introduce Mr. Stan Womer of the Governor's Office, Phoenix Arizona, who will present a report for his state.

MR. WOMER: Thank you very much Bob for inviting Arizona to this meeting. We are happy to be here. I'd like to address my remarks to the gentlemen from both Houses of the Congress, ladies and gentlemen from all of the states and ladies and gentlemen from the reservations and gentlemen from the bureauracy.

After a couple of days of sitting here building bunions where they shouldn't be, I think I am about to be the devil's advocate. In the first place, Bill Carmack was correct. There's never been so much conversation, so much talk about doing something for the Indian people as we have had in the last few years and it was news to me the way, I hadn't seen the figures before, the appropriations and funds available for the Indian people had risen since 1957. Just like my good friend Philmore Carlos, who is tribal chairman of the Salt River Pima Reservation in Arizona, said to me, "Us Indians are in".

When the Vice President wrote Governor Jack Williams about this meeting, Jack walked into my office and said, "Well I guess you'll go." I was misled. Apparently I made a mistake. I thought this was to be a meeting to talk about the problems of urban Indians and I know that the Governor was laboring under a misapprehension on that point too. Maybe I'm the only person here in the room who does want to talk about urban Indians.

I am able to say something about the reservations in Arizona. We have more than 100,000 Indians in our state. That is more than any other state in the continental U. S. In February of 1957, two guys from the Economic Development Administration walked into the Governor's office and they asked for our help in organizing their districting program. They quite willingly admitted that they had fallen flat on their face in this effort about five months earlier. We went to work and we did organize IDDA (Indian Development District of Arizona). I personally traveled between five and ten thousand miles within the state and talked to every tribal council. We ended up with an organization operated by the Indians for the Indians, a non-profit corporation with a board of directors, seventeen of them, one from each reservation in the state, with the exception of the Navajo who did not join. This is going great guns and I am proud of them. They have done a remarkable job in two years time.

At the present time we have five, no seven I believe, I can't keep track they keep adding them every week, Federal programs that they are administering. HEW is financing a half-way house for Indian teenagers who get into trouble on the reservations. They are given some vocational training and some psychological counseling, hoping that they will be able to go back to the reservation or even into the city and have a productive worthwhile life. They are also operating a Neighborhood Youth Corps on the reservations and they are doing a remarkable job. This particular activity is operated by Pete Homer, Jr., a very, very, fine, brillant young man and I think one of the great comers of the Indian people.

We have a Small Business Administration operation developing small businesses on the reservation. I can't think of all of them. If Lee Cook is here in the room, and he is, maybe he can help fill in the rest. We have an advisory committee of which I am chairman. We have met with Lee once a week for the last six weeks. It acts in an advisory capacity to IDDA and Lee Cook is on it. He represents the EDA. Clayton Holmes, who is from the State Department of Planning and Economic Development sits on it too. Don't quite know how two State guys got in on this but they are there. Ed Whelen who is industrial development man for the Whelan regional office of BIA and Roy Burke who represents the Four Corners Regional Commission are the other members. I would be happy to answer any questions about IDDA.

I must give EDA good, great credit. Only the Indian reservations in Arizona at the time of the organization of IDDA were designated by EDA. So we have to put together a districting program involving these seventeen reservations. We badly bent all the guidelines of EDA in order to do it, but they went along with it. They aided and helped in the whole operation. We're proud of this organization in Arizona.

I came here to talk about urban Indians and even if I have to talk to myself, I'm going to do it.

There are approximately 12,000 American Indians living in the Phoenix metropolitan area. This excludes the two reservations that are in the metropolitan area. The most recent data would have been obtained by the Indians. From my observation and understanding of the problem, there is no doubt but what the urban and migrant Indian is the most misunderstood, the most forgotten, the most neglected of all the racial groups in our city. He is in a veritable no-man's-land once he arrives. His reservation environment has dragged in drastically different from the situation in which he finds himself in Phoenix. His setting to him is strange and foreign. The city is a threatening, cold hostile place. It affords little of the friendship that these people have enjoyed on their own reservations and in rural settings. The city provides no welcome, just competition from the Mexican American and the Negro and the white.

The reservation Indian has been accustomed to having someone assist him in his affairs. BIA and the tribal groups have always been there willing to lend assistance and help, but, now, in the city, he is alone and he is bewildered and he is confused. There has been very little orientation to the future. He has never had to demonstrate initiative or self drive or motivation which are all essential if he is going to survive in the city. A new migrant Indian discovers to his utter dismay the reality of his situation. Very few agencies are willing to assist him. He learns very quickly that they don't understand him; they don't offer to help him primarily because BIA is supposed to help all Indians. As a result of that he is shunted from one agency to another. They fail him because they don't understand him. He came to Phoenix because he had been told of the opportunities in the big city and he ought to go there. But he learns that he is not equipped to meet the demands of the new life that he has foisted on himself. He finds that he is in very much the same kind of situation that the Irish immigrants found themselves in when they came into these shores about a hundred years ago. He suffers from the same kind of shock: lack of education, lack of marketable skills and a distinct lack of community feeling once he gets within the city.

Most minority people in the Southwest and Arizona, Mexican Americans and Negroes, can go to almost any city, Phoenix as well as any other, and find existing communities of their own kind. Within a few weeks they feel at home. This is not the situation of the American Indian in Phoenix. They come from a reservation twenty, fifty, two hundred or a thousand miles away but feel just as a foreigner would who came to our shores a hundred years ago. There are two differences, however; I'll use the Irish some more. Being partially Irish, I can do that. He had a political party when he landed in Boston that gave him help.

In Arizona, since 1880 or thereabouts, all the Indian has had on the 17 reservations is the BIA to lean upon before he got to the city, but not afterward. The urban Indian finds that help and medical services, welfare, job finding assistances are all beyond his reach. He denies himself these agencies because all of their procedures are foreign to him. He does not understand them. He rarely sees an Indian face, he speaks his own language and language is a problem in Arizona, though not in the rest of the country. They have very little empathy for him and he knows that he isn't adequately trained for a job experience if he can find adequate employment.

He discovers that his cultural values and his habits greatly differ from those of the dominant society and they clash directly with non-Indian habits and values and so he sinks deeper and deeper into the plight in which he finds himself.

I have another problem and I think this is an important one. The nation was founded on a concept of religious freedom. People's freedom to participate in their own religious and ceremonial beliefs. It is not true with the American Indian even though his religious obligations to his tribe, to his family, to his culture go very much deeper than even the Jewish community within one of the cities. His friends, his employers, the agencies dealing with the American Indian invariably fail to realize this even though the Indian knows and does honor these obligations. Very rarely does he find anyone in the urban society who understands his religious needs and the demands upon his time and few employers understand well enough even to discuss it. As a result, the Indian takes off with his family, leaves his job and what happens when he comes back? The fact that the Indians do have a unique problem and are different from other present minority groups calls, in my opinion, for a comprehensive program directed to Indians and conducted by Indians and designed to resolve these kinds of difficulties.

The Phoenix urban area is very little different in its way of orientation, counseling, vocational training than any other city in what they have to offer to the Indian. The Arizona Civil Rights Commission, the state agency, has done some work in this area but they cannot carry the whole load themselves. The only vocational training programs available to the Indians are made available to the general public and its MDTA, CEP, and WINS and all the rest of them, but they don't meet the unique needs of the Indians.

Available services are primarily geared to the non-Indian. The programs have exerted very little effort to meet the problems of the urban Indian and Indian participation has been nil. The HEADSTART program for instance, has been almost totally ineffective in reaching the parents of Indian children in Phoenix. The Community Action Program in Phoenix and its county have failed and Indians have not sopped them up. The Phoenix

Community Council compiled statistics last year, I couldn't get them for this year, indicating that 96 individuals out of 12,000 participated in CAP programs during the first quarter of 1968. And they dropped to eighty, a decrease of 16 for the second quarter. Apparently they weren't very popular.

It becomes obvious to those of us concerned with this problem that some kind of bridge has to be built between the Phoenix Indian and the agencies that are supposed to be designed to help the poor. A bridge to also reach over the gaps between the urban employer and the urban Indian is needed.

Now, in Phoenix we do have a program that is working and I think it is working vecause it is operated by Indians for Indians. A great many years ago, I suppose 10 or 15, a group of assimilated Indians and they are not all like this and I have been generalizing and what i say is not true with every individual, but a group of assimilated Indians banded together in order to help their less fortunate fellowmen. It served well at times, up and down, doing a good job at times, not at others.

In the spring of this year a Kiowa from Oklahoma with twenty years of experience in the telephone company, a supervisory, white collar job, led the reorganization of the Phoenix Indian Center. He got a new board organized, laid out their plans and hired a new director. This director is a Cherokee. Neither one of these guys are Arizona Indians. This Cherokee had had twenty-three years experience in the armed services and at the present time he is wearing a lot of hats and I know a lot of war bonnets too, because he is on the war path. With three employees and a small tribe of volunteers he has already initiated programs in family services, family and individual couseling, juvenile deliquency assistance, income management, devt counseling, legal services, health referral, employment assistance, vocational counseling, job placement, job development and alcholics anonymous.

The Center is located in an old building. It has been there for quite awhile on the fringe of the Phoenix downtown area right across the street from the old post office. It's evaporative cooled and during the Arizona summers, that's not too good. All of these programs are running concurrently in a very small space. It is a small store building. It is just bedlam, pandamonium in there from morning until night. From May 1st to August 13th, this last week, 2420 individual Indians, many of them are constant clients of course, have received some kind of guidance and counsel. It has a serious, most glaring problem because of its location and because of its history. The derelicts and the near derelicts of the Indian people dictate that the worst must be served first. A great bulk of the Indian population cannot be served from this location or from this size of an operation. 12,000 of them live too far away.

We have a few success stories, however, demonstrations of what can be done an organization of this kind. The AA program is working beautifully. About a year and a half ago Joe Hayes, who has been through the mill himself, started the AA program. He had been through a white and a Negro AA group and that was ten years ago and for nine years he has not had a drop. He has been dry. All of them call him Joe. He has a great reputation with all of the Indian people of the city. In ten months by actual count, a thousand fifty Indians have attended his meetings on Saturday night in the past year. It doesn't include people from other cultures. This includes several of the hard corps alcholic repeaters. The ages range from 16 to 67 and the education from no schooling at all to college graduates. The language problem as I mentioned earlier is a problem but he has made the program extremely flexible. The effort is made to meet the need rather than to force the probram on the Indian people. It is presented in English at the Indian's level of understanding. Forty different Indian tribes in 36 states are represented in this count of 1050. This is in spite of the fact that Alcholics Anonymous is generally considered as a white middle class phenomena, that's where it has had its primary success. But here is a female Indian girl 24 years old who had been arrested more times than she could count. She has made several attempts at suicide and was in the program for six months. After that she received her GED diploma and is now working successfully in a very large company in Phoenix with total abstinence. Another gal 24 years old was arrested 34 times according to her report. She has fife children. She's now working in a hospital and has not had a drink for over a year. A man, 39 years old, married and he's a school teacher, has been without a drink for over a year and he is helping with a little league and cub scouts. Another Indian, 29 years old, was arrested more times than he could count. He is single. He finished business school and is now employed. I can go on.

I want to come back to the counseling program because this is where I feel this operation is going to be most successful. It is just starting. One gal came into my office not to long ago in the Center and she had been originally trained as an electronic worker. She had also had some training and an inclination to be a beauty shop operator. After the couseling it was decided that she would go to school as a beauty shop operator. She got herself all straightened out then she broke her wrist, was out of work for two or three months and now she is working at the Adams Hotel. Her employer thinks she is great. And she is back at the Center as a volunteer worker, every night after five o'clock doing all that she can to help her less fortunate people.

The great hope of course, comes from the youth. A program has been started there counseling with the individuals as soon as fall comes. These will be developed into classes teaching them all of the things that they need to know to get to work on time, overcome the inertia, the rejection of the Indian people, and some people feel that it is a rejection of the old puritan work ethic which the Indians by their culture had never had to recognize. The director has done an excellent job in building liaison with the electronic plants in the city. Some of these young people in the counseling program are moving into jobs in these plants. I must mention one other point and this is the problem of transportation facing this group from the area where these Indians live. It is too far from the jobs that are generally out on the fringes of the city and in the industrial areas. If this program is to be expanded many buses are going to have to be employed to transport these young Indians to their jobs until they've had a few pay checks and can get cars for themselves and I think that is going to be soon enough.

I do want to point out that the apprenticeship council in the State of Arizona and the Department of Labor have been most cooperative and done a marvelous job in training young men in the business of finding jobs in the labor industries. We have, for instance, one young Indian, he is learning to be a boiler maker, three are in the bricklayers apprentice program, five are in training as carpenters, two as electricians, two more in the yarn makers trade and the shining light of all of them is a five foot Hopi who has just graduated from a diesel engineering program. There are 57 Indians in the Phoenix area in the apprenticeship program.

I have mentioned the fact that the present center is on the fringe of the downtown area. It serves pretty well but if this program is to be expanded, a new center, perhaps the one that is there now will be left as an outpost to serve the people that it now serves, the care is needed in area where most of the Indians live. It is about five square miles. From Third to Sixteenth and the Indian School down McDowell Road. The Board of Directors would like to establish an additional program in the heart of this Indian population. When they told me of their plans I likened it to the old settlement houses in the large cities of the United States that serve the immigrants from New York, Boston, Chicago and the other large cities in the eastern portion of the country. A place in their own neighborhood where they can find friendship and counseling, jot placement help, classes to teach the mores of the dominant society and help the Indian to adjust himself to a productive life in the city. The Governor's office is interested in this program. I would not be here if we were not, but we know that it must be expanded and just as rapidly as we can.

I want you to recall that there are 12,000 Indians in the Phoenix area now. That's a good sized tribe all in itself. This number is growing by 300 or 400 about every year and this rate is accelerating every single month. We are going to have a very serious Indian problem in the city of Phoenix, the same as other cities in the United States are facing too. Arizona has more reservation Indians than any other state, but I know that some of the other cities have more serious problems with the urban Indian than we do. We got Indians from Oklahoma and Minnesota, the Dakotas, Montana, New Mexico, Utah, Nevada and very few of them come with BIA relocation sponsorship. Most of them are on their own hook. We cannot depend on the BIA area offfice to help us.

As I said before, the Indian Center has a plan, it is doing a reasonably good job now for a limited number of Indians. They are operating on less than $30,000 a year,a little better than $30,000. I previously said I hoped that this meeting would show how these plans can be implemented and expanded. I am sure that it could be a demonstration project that some of the other cities in the United States could perhaps learn from and use, such as Los Angeles, the Bay area, Dallas, Fort Worth, Chicago and Cleveland too, I guess, that are facing similar problems, these problems are going to be getting greater as the Indians continue to migrate. I hope that action can be taken now and if there are any of the Federal agencies that can give us help, I would sure like to talk to them before I leave tomorrow. I know that BIA can do very little and that under the Economic Development Act, EDA cannot help us at all. Maybe some of the others can. Thank you very much for listening. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you very much Stan Womer for an excellent presentation. We really appreciate the comments you have made on the problems of the urban Indian and we are very much interested in this meeting in hearing about the urban Indian situation and getting your comments and criticisms on it. One of the major thrusts, perhaps the most energetic thrust of the Council during its short existence has been a project aimed at the problems of the urban Indian. The NCIO has conducted, since the first of the year, five hearings in urban centers. These transcripts have been prepared, they are in the printers now, they should be out in the very near future. Summaries and recommendations are now being prepared for submission to the Vice President, the the Indian members of the Council and to the Cabinet officers to bring to their attention the suggestions and recommendations of all those who testified and of the professional staff.

That concludes our second afternoon session. We will be getting an early start tomorrow morning, 8:30 a.m. See you then.

BEGIN THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, SESSION

MR. ROBERTSON: Just for the record, so that when we do the transcripts we will have the correct attendance at each one, let me identify each person at the table; then I will call for that particular table reporter.

Table No. 1: Governor John Stevens, Phil Martin, Chief Walter Jackson, John Hathorn and Charles L. Knight. Is there anyone of those who is not at your table? Chief Jackson is not. The Federal resource people, Warren Cardwell and Harry Mitchell. Mr. Charles Knight will report for Table No. 1. Mr. Knight, from Florida, will you please come up?

MR. CHARLES L. KNIGHT: We have three recommendations: First we urge that Federal Indian grant-in-aid programs be amended to eliminate the distinction between Federal and non-federal Indians.

Secondly, we recommend that we greatly increase consideration of juvenile problems among the Indian people; including expanded programs of counseling, recreation, law enforcement and others.

Our last recommendation, we recommend the consideration of direct grants to tribal councils in order to help implement administration of tribal programs thus encouraging self-determination.

Our discussion was very interesting because we had gentlemen from both Maine and New York who have state reservations. It would be very difficult to summarize, except to say that because of the state reservations the Indian people in some of these states, and I think that we had a list of some fifteen states, are having trouble in participating in the Federal grant-in-aid programs and our discussion prompted this recommendation No. 1 because of the tremendous problem that the people in Maine and New York and these other states have in benefiting from the entire Indian program as made available by various governmental agencies.

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you Mr. Knight. Thanks to all of you at Table No. 1.

Table No. 2: I will read the list of the state gubernatoral delegates and inform me if any of the people I call are not at your table. Mr. Frank D. Cox of Alaska, Bernice Pate of California, William LaBlanc of Michigan, Dempsie Henley of Texas and Sylvester Tinker of Oklahoma. You are all there and the Federal resource people are Roderick Riley of BIA and Morris Shroder. Mr. Riley is taking the Commissioner down to the valley and apologizes for not being at this table session, but it is in the capable hands of Morris Shroder of HUD. Dempsie Henley of Texas will report.

MR. HENLEY: First of all, we have got a million dollar commitment out of the Small Business Administration members.

Gentlemen, distinguished representatives. From our table, we have representatives from Michigan, Alaska, Oklahoma, Texas and California. The role of the state, we unanimously agreed: first of all, each is to be constitutionally responsible for every citizen in that state. No. 2, the state should form a partnership, so to speak, with the Federal Government on all these programs. For example, in the state of Texas we have introduced bills into the Congress releasing the Federal Government and thus taking the responsibility of our Texas Indians. I would venture to say we are participating with as many or more Federal programs than anyone here today, because of this Federal-state partnership arrangement. We go to the Federal Government with these programs and try to participate on every level that we can. We had loans and we had housing, and I grant you that every state here has a lobbyist or an attorney who works free, like Mr. Price Daniels, the former Governor of Texas. In his former job for President Johnson he created a good working relationship between the county, the state and the Federal Government. Don't slam the door on any of these projects. It should be a cooperative matter.

Now, there is a peculiar problem. There was encouragement that the state should create state scholarships in the field of education. This is a new idea, and I think it might work. Go to the states and Federal Government with theiidea that maybe they should furnish scholarships on some basis of our people. The Federal role should be to find out what the Indian people need. At our table we found that these were peculiar needs and not all the same. Even in Texas we have one tribe in the east and one in the west with vastly different situations. They should not be directed out of Washington, D. C., they should come down on a local level and find out what is needed and sell these programs down there. It is obvious that the Federal Government wants to help. They are trying to help out, by the virtue of this meeting, but they are stumbling around trying to find out what to do and how to do it. They should talk to the Indian people and find out their problems and what program would work out on those problems.

California, it was point out has a mammoth problem. You mentioned the one in Arizona. Thousands of Indians are coming there after being dumped in California. Their relocation problem is going to be enormous. And I think the Federal Government recognizes the mounting problem that is going to come about by not being able to handle these people. They do not know how to turn the gas on or who to call when the baby swallows or chokes. They do not know how to turn the utilities off. It is an enormous problem and the Federal Government should be more intimate and participate on the problems at hand.

Now, also the word "termination," it means a lot of things to a lot of people. We should be very careful with this word because a lot of Indian people have been trapped by what they thought was self-reliance and self-subsistance when in reality it cut them off from everything else. This is a bad thing because we are terminating in Texas, but we are not going to quit being United States citizens or Texas citizens. We want the help and aid where we can get it. But we also want our independence and we want our self government.

In Texas we have a tourist business run by a corporation of Indians and they hire white eyes to run it, but it is an Indian proposition. Indian commissioners should work in as many Indian people as possible. We recently hired an Indian superintendent, assistant superintendent to take over this Indian Buriness. As soon as he can handle a million dollar budget, we are going to let him replace the well qualified superintendent, Walter Bowman. We are saying, in summary, that the state role should be one of a partnership, working together on these programs. The Federal Government should get closer to the people, try to work with programs on the local level for that particular problem rather than try to dictate them out of Washington, and have a general policy for all Indians everywhere. Basically Indians wherever they are should be recognized as Indians and afforded all the benefits to their interest.

One man has a little problem. He is going down to Texas, getting some kind of a weed to use in a religious ceremony. We use it for other purposes in Texas, but he says it goes into their ceremonies and that this use of the weed should not be opposed and also that they should have something like the defenders legal services made available to the Indian people.

We are going into a business; we expect to have a half million visitors on our reservation next year and according to this lengthy report that we have we will have a million visitors when this project is completed. This activity provides a good income for our people. We think it is going to be a tremendous thing. Did I leave out something?

In Texas the people have to be full-blooded Indians to get on the reservation. They cannot intermarry. The gentleman here for Oklahoma says as long as you come from an old line family and you can prove that you were a relation, you should be afforded the same opportunity and benefits as if you were a full-blooded Indian. We have only about 1,000 thoroughbred Indians in Texas and maybe about 10,000 that are of the Oklahoma type. (Laughter)

So, as our tourist business expands, we are getting more of the thoroughbreds back on the reservation. This is a problem, who's an Indian? We do not have anything to do with this. Indians cannot intermarry. They do not want any white eyes out there on the reservation marrying some of the pretty Indian girls.

Any questions from anyone about the several states here? We trust the two cents that we have added might be of help to you. Thank you very much.

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you Dempsie.

Table No. 3: Dion Stams of Illinois, Charles Shunatona of Kansas, Robert V. McManus of Nebraska, Robert Tyson of Iowa and N. R. Calvo of Ohio and Mr. Taylor of Virginia. Is that correct? The Federal resource people for table No. 3, Victor Phillips of Agriculture and Bernard Kulik of the Small Business Administration.

Reporting for Table No. 3 will be Robert Tyson of Iowa.

MR. ROBERT TYSON: Thank you Bob.

We did not in the few minutes available, perhaps, arrive at a concensus and certainly did not solve all the problems of the several states represented as Bob Robertson said. The states at Table No. 3 were Illinois, Virginia and Nebraska, Iowa and Ohio.

We agree, I think, in our discussion, the state has the same responsibility to its Indian citizens and they should be the recipients of any benefits which they need the same as do all other citizens.

We found in our discussion that the situations and problems vary somewhat from those in Ohio, where the Indian population is scattered and not large and, perhaps, hasn't been well identified, to Virginia which actually has state reservations. We also agree that the states should work with the Federal government on programs which presently exist and are presently in use for the benefit of the citizens of the state in order to provide needed benefits for the Indians as well.

We agree generally, also, that Indians themselves should have some role in identifying their heeds and planning for programs that they may need.

I might add a personal point from Iowa and this may not work well with each of the states at the table. I think we in Iowa, where the Indian population is fairly small, but is increasing in some of the cities because of immigration, feel that the state is in the best position to work directly with the Indians, to identify some of the needs, enlist the financial support of our Federal brothers in Washington to help solve some of these problems with programs that presently exist.

Did I leave out any particular point that we should include in the highlights? They say if we had a little more time we might come up with more specific answers, but I think the emphasis was that states do have a responsibility to all citizens including the Indians in the Federal programs presently in use. The states should certainly see that they do cover the Indian residents as well who need it, because we recognize in many instances it probably has been neglected. Anything further at Table No. 3?

There are a number of specific problems that need to be worked out because it does vary at the present time from state to state. Thank you.

MR. ROBERTSON: Very good. Thank you Bob

Table No. 4: Mrs. Edward L. Hughes of Oregon is at that table, William R. Jeffries, Washington, David R. Bowen, Mississippi, Alan Quetone, Kansas; Rober Johnson, Nevada. Messrs. Bowen and Quetone are not there and Mrs. Pinto representing Chairman Nakai is at Table No. 4. Our Federal resource person is Dr. Ted Taylor of the BIA and may we have the report from Table No. 4 Mrs. Hughes?

MRS. EDWARD L. HUGHES: You have already heard our constituency; when I think of Mrs. Pinto I do not know whether to say Arizona or Navajo country because Navajo is really almost a state in itself.

We started out with a recognition of the real dimensions in magnitude and complexities of the problems which we have been addressing ourselves from various vantage points. One of the first comments made in our discussion was that there seems to be such a vast amount of red tape that people have to go through, as far as BIA was concerned, in order to get things done. How much of the appropriated money actually gets to the Indian himself?

I think I can safely say that we were already almost at our concluding concensus, that we felt the states need to assume more of a role and assume more responsibility of their own Indian population. But this would not be possible unless some system of direct Federal grants could be made to the states, perhaps to those departments already existing. Bob Johnson of Nevada mentioned roads as an example. Now this may work in the State of Nevada where it wouldn't work in Navajo country. There might be some real savings, but this could apply to other existing departments in the state government.

Dr. Taylor mentioned the development in some of our large urban cities of what are known as service centers where at a one stop station, let us say, the needed resources or services are concentrated.

The person in need of help, no matter what it may be; whether assistance, legal aid, health or whatever, can find it in one spot. The Navajo Chapter Houses are a good example of what the Navajos are doing on this. Out of 102 Navajo chapters, 90 have chapter houses and here the services within that immediate vicinity can be concentrated.

We thought that there should be a tremendous push for true Indian involvement, not only at a policy making and decision level, but as actual workers themselves. And we posed a question of training, and here again the states would probably need some Federal assistance. But there is a difference when Indians work with Indians. We are very much aware that most professionals and many non-Indians are really, as one of the fellows at our table said, ignorant when it comes to understanding another culture. We also felt there is a problem of liaison between state legislative bodies and the Federal Congress and I suppose, I add as my own opinion perhaps, we should help our Indian people understand our political process more. Is this the concensus at my table? Thank you.

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you for that excellent report Mrs. Hughes.

Table No. 5: Ward C. Holbrook, Utah; John C. Rainer of New Mexico; Stan Womer of Arizona; Alvin James of Nevada; James N. Hill of Idaho; Leonard C. Burch of Colorado and Harold J. Boyd of Montana. And the Federal resource person is Jim Wilson. Is that substantially correct. Thank you.

Alvin James will report for Table No. 5.

MR. ALVIN JAMES: We did not come to any general concensus and it would be presumptuous to say that we all agree on all of these things. However, I will go through and tell you what, generally, we talked about.

We said that in Utah there was a problem that the Federal government is doing very little, except in welfare. We have problems with the WIN program and that there should be a cost benefit study of the $500 million that was mentioned yesterday and the day before. We doubt the usefulness of the BIA and the Federal government should go to local people and ask them what they can do. Colorado felt that there should be better cooperation between the state and Federal government at the local level. The states are not financially able to assume BIA jurisdiction. Idaho felt that there was a need for better initial coordination instead of developing programs then superimposing them on local people. And that they should bring the Federal agencies together and coordinate them a little more. Arizona felt that their tax base is not large enough to support Indians in efforts, and they couldn't possibly hope to finance the BIA schools; however, through block grants this may be a possibility. There should be no harsh disagreements with the Indian people because of their close working relationship with the Federal people. New Mexico said that the Indians would best be served by maintaining the BIA so that they can do their job well. There is the problem that the BIA is underfunded. New Mexico's Indian population requires about $37 million and they are funded at a level of $12,847,000; and if the states completely assume the responsibilities of the Indian programs, there is the problem of not having adequate field representatives. Montana felt that there is a lack of funds on the state level to assume more of a responsibility. They have problems with the landed and landless groups and other divisions among the Indians and that more money should go to the BIA; however, there is a stigma attached to the BIA and their effectiveness of working with the Indians.

In other matters that we discussed, the old fears of discriminating against the Indians once the state assumes the funds appeared. An example of this would be on the school board where, if the money to the various jobs in announced 874 and 815 programs went to the state, the Indians would not be allowed to participate fully on the school board. And of course, the old question of the non-Indians taking over the Indian land. A positive note was that the block grants could be made to the states through initial coordination of the efforts. We talked of the question of the Indians, or rather the Federal people, asking the Indians what they want to do. Many times the Indians are not vocal enough to say what they really want and if they do many of their needs are not met. We talked of the coordination at state level of Indian programs to the CAMPS (Cooperative Area Manpower Planning System) and we agreed that they were ineffective because the same people are on the CAMPS committee that originally proposed the program. So they pass judgment on their own program and everyone recognizes that they are CAMPS people reorganizing to make the CAMPS appointed by the Governor without vested interest groups on the CAMPS committee. There is a problem of race that made the matching grants especially through Title V which was phased out then WIN and other programs that are made. The state legislatures backed off because they impose every time they are refunded to have the states resume a greater responsibility and the states bulk at this because they do not want to be involved in the program of providing more state money once it is refunded. And that there is a possibility that the Federal agencies could contract many of their services to the state, since they are better able to provide these services. That is about all that we talked about. Is there anything I left out. It is difficult to put all these things in one little space. Thank you.

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you Alvin, for a usually great job. That is quite a catalogue from your table. My golly you covered ground.

MR. ROBERTSON: Table No. 6: Atlee Dodge of Wisconsin, George F. Humphrey of Minnesota, Vernon Ashley of South Dakota, Austin Engle of North Dakota, Charles E. Trimble of Colorado, and the two Federal resource people at Table No. 6 Ray Tanner of EDA and Robert E. Drew, Indian Health Service of HEW. Is the roll substantially correct? It is. May we have the report, please? The report for Table No. 6 will be given by Mr. Vernon Ashley of South Dakota.

MR. VERNON ASHLEY: I have to make a comment first in the order of our reporters. You know, they always tell about Texas having the biggest of everything. I noticed the first table had a man from Texas report who is the biggest man in the conference. But then again, he talked about thoroughbred, I happen to represent South Dakota, I do not call myself a thoroughbred. I call myself a pedigreed Indian because I am a full-blooded Sioux Indian.

We had Minnesota, Colorado, North Dakota, Wisconsin, South Dakota at our table and we covered a lot of items and the first is that we agree on the fact that the Bureau of Indian Affiars has come to the point where it doesn't have an exclusive priority on Indian affairs. We have Housing and Urban Development, Small Business Administration, FHA, OEO, all the other Federal agencies, and EDA as well, who are rendering services on Indian reservations. But, here comes the point of coordination.

We think that there should be method of coordinating these efforts on a reservation to render a better service to Indian people throughout the states that we represent. Futhermore, we feel that, I think we are all in agreement, states represented that due to the little tax base of the states represented would not be in a position to assume responsibilities of Indian Affairs. I cited the fact that South Dakota had a population of about 700,000 people and there is a terrific demand on the state legislature as far as funds are concerned, in every branch of Government. You have heard of the news where South Dakota education is demanding more money in education. In fact we had one of the largest teachers strikes in history - about 5,000 teachers at our capital building demonstrating urging the governor to put more money out. Well, the fact is that the states are not financially able to assume these responsibilities.

We brought up the point of working out this coordination which I termed the triune cooperation. Actually, complying with the word cooperation as Webster defined it, this is through the Federal agencies, state government and the tribes. You know, there is a great emphasis put by Federal agencies on the tribal councils in South Dakota and on most of our reservations. The part that is brought on in this respect, it does not apply to our off-reservation Indian. We do not say urban because we have got just small towns, but we still have the off-reservation Indians who are at these locations seeking employment. But because rising living costs and since our Indian people are of the lowest income bracket of the nation, just because they move into a town to find jobs does not elevate their standard of living in comparison to the dominant society.

Colorado, Wisconsin, and Minnesota pointed out the fact that probably the Federal agencies should readjust or redesign their policies and procedures to try to work out a system for funding Indian organizations which represent the off-reservation communities.

I think we discussed the fact of using the white man's legal entity - the corporate structure - and of using a non-profit corporation to try to acquire the services for Indians. One specifically is health. Our Indian people do not have the income to afford paying the premiums on health services or health insurance. So we are fortunate in having Mr. Bob Drew with us and the fact is we were not stressing new construction of clinics, but working out a contract arrangement and in fact North Dakota discussed with their Indian people of Mandan and Bismark the fact that the Indians would pay for part of financial services if the public health service could help them out in meeting the entire cost. The Minnesota representative said that he did not think the Indian people should be losing their identity and saying that they can alter responsibility out of the BIA. There are many other agencies that should be included in this coordination. These are private organizations. I cannot name them all, United Fund Drive, there are many of these city organizations that should be involved in helping the low income people.

Mr. Dodge has pointed out the fact that, referring again to this use of a legal entity for off-reservation communities, in using the corporate structure the problems are many.

The fact remains that in Colorado, Minnesota and as well as Wisconsin, in the larger urban areas, they have several Indian organizations that usually are formed by someone's personality or maybe other organizations, but they are never in unison in what they strive to do. So it was suggested at one point that maybe the states' commissions would be a proper starting point to go through and coordinate these efforts from all the Federal agencies coming into the State.

We covered so many things here. I will have to look at my notes.

You know this boy from Pine Ridge who did this recording, his hieroglyphics are kind of hard to read.

The point we made is having equal justice to our Indians. This is both on the reservation and off. I won't go into the examples of why we say this but we stress the fact that the Civil Rights Act of 1968 was one of the finest pieces of legislation passed by the United States Congress.

In off-reservation situations we do not have equal justice. Many of you have heard about the situation in South Dakota which I really exemplified, but I won't do it this time. But, if you have court appointed attorneys you are going to have that caliber attorney. I am not downing the legal profession but in one case specifically which has been in the news for quite sometime, for two years, in fact, it was determined that there would be a legal court appointed attorney and as a result the boy did not get the right protection. This happens not only in serious cases, but in small matters pertaining to Indian reservations there are rights. One reservation had to protect their water rights. But here again, South Dakota Water Resources Commission granted the right to a rancher on an Indian reservation to punch down a hole and get water and pulling out about 2200 gallons or some a minute. It was quite an amount of water they were going to pull out a minute to irrigate. But never did they go consult the tribal council of the tribe and this happened on a closed reservation so the tribe came up to the state but they did not have any legal representation. Nevertheless, by treaty rights, the Indian water rights are reserved on a reservation. Now the state says alright we will have to reconsider at this point, but here again, I think the tribes should have had a lawyer to represent them because by treaty rights they had the right to reserve this for Indian use. Now the reason why they say this is because of the fact that in this area shallow wells were easy to procure but they won't be if they are going to pump all that water out of one location. This is just an example of equal justice.

We also recognize the fact that there are discriminatory practices and prejudice among our off-reservation communities. And we said we should as American citizens strive to alleviate these problem areas. I always stress this fact because if an Indian is educated, if he is trained, if he is qualified to do a job he should be accepted like any other American. But, unfortunately, in communities close to reservations this is not the case. And I think that we should recognize this. In state government, if we do, I think we would be more effective in approaching the problem.

Oh, we brought out the matter of cross funding. We have so many Federal agencies. You know they were all here today. We listened to them for two days. But the idea, I think, is to coordinate these programs for the benefit of the Indian people. When you get down to some of our reservations that have less capit l to operate or to develope industry or to attract industry we usually go to the Economic Development Administration. The Economic Development Administration says, alright we can help you with an 80 percent grant but if they don't have the money, what happens to the 20 percent? Where do they get it? Then, we suggested that probably there should be a procedure. This is on the parts of the Federal agencies. They should redesign and redirect their operations and say we should work out a cross-funding situation; in this way we could implement these developments on reservations.

They also brought out the fact that maybe in the states we should have one organization instead of numerous ones going out in different directions. So it is pretty hard. Even in South Dakota, where we are all Sioux, it is pretty hard for all the tribal council chairmen to come together and agree on one point, and say alright, this is what we have to strive for because each one of them is striving for more industry or more funds or more Federal help for their specific reservations and they cannot seem to think about helping Indians in our off-reservation communities. And this is why I think the Federal agencies should recognize a legal entity, using a corporate structure which is non-profit in off-reservation communities where they could implement programs for the advancement of our Indian people in the urban areas.

We discussed the fact of health because we want to repeat it again. Rapid City has a very difficult situation as Mr. Drew has very ably explained and there the mayor's office took the responsibility to coordinate and try to redirect the services to our Indian people.

Did I miss anything, gentlemen?

I think, in closing, that I hope the Federal agencies will listen to what is being said at these tables and I hope that when we come up to the states reports we will give a little further information. Thank you.

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you for that very well done report Mr. Ashley and you are to be complimented on your stenographic abilities Mr. Dodge.

I may comment, I suppose just about all of you in this room know that Mr. Vernon Ashley is chairman of the Governor's Interstate Indian Council which will be meeting early in September in Bismarck, North Dakota. Is that correct or is it Rapid City, South Dakota? Rapid City, South Dakota early in September so this should be an outstanding meeting and I certainly wish you the very best of luck for a successful conference.

Now those table reports were really interesting. I sincerely enjoyed this session. I know it is going to get more enjoyable as the afternoon goes on. We will very shortly take our coffee break and upon resuming, we will hear the special reports from the three individual states and then we will begin the reports of the individual state governor's designees and this should be a very productive part of this session. We look forward to it.

As you recall, we began late yesterday with one of four special state reports which I assume, in essence, will be very similar to the reports that each of the governor's designees here will be giving on behalf of their states. The first report in the set of four was given by Mr. Stan Womer of Governor Jack William's office in Phoenix, Arizona. I would like to call next upon a very unusual gentleman and, very obviously to me, a very dedicated gentleman. He and his wife have been absolutely delightful and I take great pleasure at this time in introducing the delegate from the Governor's office in the great state of Oklahoma, Mr. Sylvester J. Tinker, Governor's Interstate Indian Council, Pawhuska, Oklahoma, Mr. Tinker.

MR. TINKER: Mr. Robertson, the first thing I want to do is thank you for your great hospitality for inviting my wife and I here. This has been one of the most outstanding meetings I have attended since I have been in the Indian business. I believe that we are going to accomplish a great many things here today, because we have had the opportunity to talk these things over on a state basis.

First, the American Indian Institute at the University of Oklahoma has been active in education research and culture of the American Indian for over 30 years. The Southwest Center for Human Relations has become involved in action programs for over seven years, and has conducted adult education and community development and progress in that period, and at the present time. When Governor Bellmon was elected Governor the Indian people of Oklahoma were brought to his attention. We immediately found that there were a great many things to be done for the Indian people. The beginning of his term of office was the beginning of the state's participation in Indian affairs. Governor Dewey Bartlett has been one of the most outstanding men in the Indian business affairs. The reason I say that is because for 60 years the Democratic administration did nothing for the Indian people. Governor Dewey Bartlett is the first man that created the Indian Commission for the State of Oklahoma. What this commission has really done is to get closer to the people. The Congressmen, the Senators, and all the people that could do something for us, recognized this commission of which we are very happy.

Oklahoma has a great many different deals for the Indian people. I don't think that of all the states that have made reports, there is anything like Oklahoma. In the first place, we don't have a reservation in the State of Oklahoma. We are entirely under the state, which is really good. Of course, when you go back and talk to your governors, they will never relinquish your rights in the government courts. You always keep that because that is one of the main things that will give you strength.

We have approximately 67 tribes in the State of Oklahoma, but nobody has ever made a proper count to really find out how many Indian people are in the State of Oklahoma. The BIA has made a count of 65,000 Indians, but really we would probably have over 150,000 to 175,000 Indians in the State of Oklahoma. The 5 tribes are the only people that are holding on to the quantum of one-fourth. All the rest of us are having the privilege of receiving the health and welfare programs and we think that maybe they are thinking about lifting our quantum too. The health and welfare program is a most important thing in the State of Oklahoma. Of course with the count of 65,000 people, it doesn't allot us enough money. The government allotted something like nine and a half to ten million dollars to take care of all the Indians in the State of Oklahoma of 65,000. Actually there are 150,000. Two years ago, Dr. Rabeau made a tour from the Washington office. God bless Dr. Rabeau because he really did something for the Oklahoma Indian.

Actually we are a sick group down here. We have more diabetes in the State of Oklahoma than any other place in the U.S. They made a survey of it, but they have not come up with why. We needed this medical help. After Dr. Rabeau made the tour of Oklahoma, and saw how bad off the Indian people really were, he said the he wanted these Indians doctored and he want them doctored now. Well, at that time we had nine places for Indians to be doctored. There are probably two good hospitals out of the nine; all the rest of them are obsolete. They've been built for over 30 years and no improvement of any kind has been made of these hospitals yet. But since Dr. Rabeau has been in, he has created thirty clinics throughout the State of Oklahoma where these Indians can be doctored. Now the Indians would not be so poor that they could not make it from Eastern Cherokee over to Claremore, Oklahoma or they couldn't come from Poncha City to Pawnee so they did not get doctored. Today we have clinics throughout the whole state where these Indians can go and get medical attention. Gentlemen, you just do not know what this means to the Indian people.

We cannot blame the BIA for not giving us some money to operate. It is actually the Indian's fault because we don't organize politically. A vote is really what counts when you want money, because you have to go through your senators and your congressmen. Those are the people that give out the money for these programs. Now, with nine and a half million dollars, well we will run out in June. We did not have money to doctor these people; just the ones that came to the clinic. So we organized a group of people about a month ago, and on the 13th of September (just as soon as Congress opens up again) we will have a delegate from each tribe go to Washington and see if we cannot get more money so that we can doctor these people. Now you cannot educate a hungry child; you cannot educate one that cannot see. The thing of it is, we need these glasses and everything. And after all, these very glasses here are put out by the government, and actually they are worth $5.00. If we had the money, we could have glasses for every child, and for everybody that needed them. We need dentists throughout the whole country. We are moving that way, because under the state supervision we are getting a great deal of things accomplished. The Governor actually goes along with this.

Another program that the Governor created was the Governor's Commission on Full Employment. About two years ago, the Governor was studying how we can put these Indians to work. He could see Indians everywhere. Oklahoma City has got about 10 or 15,000 Indians. He created the Commission for Full Employment and he called in nine Negroes, nine Indians and nine Caucasians. And from that group they formed this Commission. Mr. Albert Kelly, who is a banker from Kellyville, Oklahoma, took the job on free gratis for the Governor in order to make this labor commission work. Then Mr. Don Bluejacket who is a Shawnee-Cherokee Indian is a retired colonel. Of course, they had some real good material there to implement this program. The first year after the Commission was in operation, the Governor put 2,000 underprivileged people to work. He told everybody in the state capitol that anytime one of these people puts in an application, they should not throw it in the wastebasket because it has to be processed properly. If the Indian, colored person or the underprivileged white is capable, we will find him a job. Just last week, through the efforts of this Commission, we had a young soldier boy come back to Pawhuska. Of course, Pawhuska is the worst place in the world for Indians to get employment. He said to me, "Do you think I can get a job?" I said, "well, I'm sure you can." He was really clean cut and a good looking boy. So we sent him down to Mr. Don Bluejacket. Three or four days later, he came back and he said, "I want to really thank you. They put me to work Monday morning at Douglas Aircraft as a parachute worker for $3.50 an hour." That really pleased him. It was something that was good. Two years ago, we couldn't have done that at all. So much for the labor commission.

Our Governor of Oklahoma established the Human Rights Commission, which every state ought to have. When he established this Human Rights Commission, Mr. Bill Rose, who is a Negro, is in charge of the Human Rights Commission. The chairman of the Commission is a Choctaw minister, a very outstanding man, Dr. Frank Bellmon. I don't know whether you have ever met this man or not, but he really is outstanding. Whenever the Indian people are discriminated against, they call in this group of people and sit in on the different commissions which have really done a great deal for the Indian people. The Indians call Dr. Bellmon in a great deal, for he could listen in on the things that had a real affect on these people that are discriminating towards the Indian people. Dr. Bellmon has really been good to the Indian.

Then, Governor Bartlett has set up, not a Commission, but he has traveled throughout the U. S. He has brought in industry from every direction, and the first one he created was the carpet mill. We have four of them in the State of Oklahoma, two or three manufacturing plants, and 80 percent of the labor at the Oklahoma plant are Indian people. They found out that the Indians were the best people they could get to make these carpets, for the reason they could use their hands. They were just perfect at it. When they went to the dye vat, the Indian really had the color. He could really master that, so we have Indians that are in charge of those dye vats, and when they sew these carpets up, it is quite an operation. It covers about ten acres. We have one at Pawhuska, and of course, all the discrimination against the Indian people and I mean discrimination. We have a town of 5,000 people, and we have twenty-four lawyers. We have got them everywhere. They own half the land. They are doing real good. The rest of them are doctors. Of course, we have eliminated the doctors, when we put the medical aid in. The doctor used to go up to the agency. We kind of had the bone-yard for the whole U. S. for retired BIA people. If they want to retire one, we send him to Pawhuska because there is pretty good pay, they don't have to do to much anyhow. We were fortunate enough through our last Commissioner, who sent us for the first time in history, a man that was forty-two years old, a real business executive, and he has done more in two years than all the rest of the people have done in four years. I am just quite amused at this man from Alaska. He does not really know what is going to happen to those people there because wherever there is money then all the corruption of the world comes in. We were happy people before we hit oil. When we got that greasy hole that was the end of it. Everybody came. About this blood quantum that I was talking about, you couldn't tell an Alaskan from a Chinaman ten years from now. Whenever they start getting that money up there, it will be the same way it was with the fur traders. When they came down, that's where all of us half-breeds came from. I have over seven hundred relatives in Osage county and if it had not been for those fur traders, I would have just had a few mixed up. Even the people who live in the Sioux country of South Dakota are my relations too. So I can go to about any state I want and stay with my folks. I don't do it but I have them there anyhow.

One of the most important things that the people on the state programs are working on is the Neighborhood Youth Corps. Now, when everyone of you goes back home you should try to get the Neighborhood Youth Corps within your own agency. Give them an office, and get it to operate because our tribal council sponsored the Neighborhood Youth Corps here. It has been about three or four years now. This last year, or this year, there were 311 children that took advantage of this Youth Corps, and out of the 311, there were 118 Indians. You have the privilege to hire your own children right there under the agency supervision. Just as soon as school is out this program will be under the supervision of Maxwell McKenzie, who is a school teacher and has a Masters degree and many kinds of degrees. He is a real competant person to administrate this program. So, by this last year 83 percent of all the Indians using the NYC project, that is, 83 percent either went on to higher education or other employment. I have known Mr. McKenzie to go right down to the jail in one case, get a young lady out of jail and took her up and bought her some clothes, cleaned her up, combed her hair and entered her in school and she finished, now she is working for the Phillips Oil Company in Bartlettsville today and making a real outstanding citizen. So these are some of the things the NYC program can do for you people, if you would just go ahead and affiliate it with your own tribal people under the direction of your own chief. I have been appointed to that Commission by Governor Bartlett and Mr. Duffy who has charge of all the programs in Oklahoma. It is a really outstanding program.

That is about all I can think of to tell you people. In other words I just appreciate your efforts here and this gives me a real pleasure to come here. I can't say it very well; it does not make any difference because you understand it anyway. I hope you will get something out of this talk. You can go back home and do something for your people. Thank you very much. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you Mr. Tinker, both for the talk and your kind remarks. Mr. Tinker has a part of his speech that he has left out and he will make a real brief postscript here on this one point.

MR. TINKER: One thing that I really forgot on this program were the seventeen year old youths that are just out of high school, children between seventeen and eighteen, don't have a program and so I want to ask through this meeting today, we do get legislation to take care of the NYC. Children just coming out of high school need to work in order to have money to buy their clothing and pay for different things that they must have before going to college. I would like the people in the states to recognize one thing and ask that we have some kind of program for children between seventeen and eighteen years old. The reason they can't work is because of the Compensation Law. We have to ask Congress to change that in some way to work to these children's benefit.

MR. ROBERTSON: We have a direct and personal request from the Governor of the State of Nevada, Paul Laxalt, that a brief proposal be presented on his behalf at this meeting. So at this time, I call two gentlemen forward. Both are not going to speak on the lengthy part of the issue. One of them will very briefly read the letter from the Governor and the other will indicate the interesting proposal which the Governor of the State of Nevada has come forward with. Alvin James and Bob Johnson of the State of Nevada on behalf of Governor Laxalt.

MR. JAMES: Thank you very much Bob. It is a pleasure to speak before you and bring this proposal forward. In preparing for this, the Governor called us in and we had a very intimate talk with him. He said that to make sure that the people understand two things: (1) that this proposal is dependent upon the Indian peoples exceptance and approval; (2) that it in no way affects their trust relationship with the Federal government. A letter from Governor Paul Laxalt to the National Council on Indian Opportunity, Stateline, from the Executive Chambers of Carson City, Nevada.

Dear Members of the Conference: I sincerely regret not being able to make this presentation before this honorable assemblege. May I briefly propose to this conference, Nevada's willingness to set a major precedence in seeing that our Indian citizens receive a quality of service designed to meet State and local needs.

My Indian Commission's 1968 Annual Report contains recommendations which, when effected, would entail transferring the responsibility for providing certain services for Nevada Indians from Federal to state jurisdiction. This proposal calls for Federal funds to be passed on to the State to provide for the continuation of the service.

Not only would this proposal guarantee that the greatest possible benefit be obtained from the funds appropriated, but it would bring the responsibility for servicing our native Nevadans to this State and the local levels where it can be adequately administered.

I not only wholeheartedly support these objectives, but I will do whatever I can to see that our State agencies, which assume these responsibilities, will whenever possible do so within their existing structure thereby freeing the maximum dollar for reservation programs. Sincerely, Paul Laxalt, Governor of Nevada.

MR. JOHNSON: I will briefly give a brief description of the proposed position for the State. From the report of the Nevada Indian Affairs Commission for the Fiscal Year 1967 and 1968 proposed very subjective having to do with special services being provided Nevada Indians by the Federal Government. The Commission's recommendations in several of these areas call for a responsibility for these services being shifted from Federal to state jurisdiction with Federal subsidization. The majority of the Federal expenditures for the Indians in Nevada is channeled through the Nevada Indian Agency. That agency has a salary payroll of approximately $750,000 annually, not including the Stewart School staff. It is our position that while this agency staff is providing some services to Indians, they are accounting for far to great a share of the tax dollar appropriated for the Indian. The physical needs of the Nevada Indians remains unanswered. It is our position that the State of Nevada maintain an administrative staff and other experienced field personnel capable of handling the services being duplicated by the Nevada Indian Agency, Public Health Service, as well as other Federally funded agencies. By so doing, at little or no extra cost, Federal funds could be channeled through the State to the reservation. Two good examples are in the area of road construction and sanitary services. Federal subsidies equal to or approaching the salaries of existing staff in these areas could pay for badly needed roads and sanitation facilities when effectively carried out by the appropriate and existing agency. In an area of great need, that of water and sanitation, much could be accomplished. Many reservations have no domestic water or sanitary facilities. Engineering for these systems was laid out years ago and only funds are needed to actually provide them. The current schedule calls for only one reservation each year. We feel the state has competent men to carry out the program using Federal funds retrieved from the salaries of Federal employees on the job. There is no need to elaborate on the road situation as we can easily see the expense of providing Federal workers and equipment when there is a duplicated force, state or local, probably much closer to the reservation. That such a system would work can be seen by examining the current program and the Federal welfare assistance to Nevada Indians. Under a contract with the State of Nevada the assistance and services are provided by the State Welfare Department. Not only does this provide additional experienced workers, but it allows for the maximum funding to reach the Indians. This proposal in no way would altar the BIA's responsibility, the basic one, which is the trusteeship of Indian lands, nor would it affect the Federal agencies responsibilities to have funds appropriated by Congress. We are aware, of course, that what could be accomplished in Nevada might possibly at this time be unfeasible in states with a much larger Indian population and reservation area. What we are studying and hoping to successfully carry out would mean more Federal dollars to satisfy the physical needs to Nevada Indians with funds already appropriated. Thank you. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you Bob Johnson for that excellent report and Alvin James for transmitting the message from Governor Laxalt. Please extend to him our sincere thanks.

Now we look to the State of Minnesota and we will call at this time on Mr. George F. Humphrey, Chairman of the Indian Affairs Commission, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Mr. Humphrey.

MR. HUMPHREY: Ladies and gentlemen, it is traditional to say that I am delighted to be here. I can truthfully tell you that

I am not. The altitude has almost killed me and I am not quite sure I don't want it to.

Very seriously, I was asked to shorten this talk so I will hit some key points for you and I will be happy to try to send you our reports.

Twenty years ago, in 1949, Minnesota started doing something as a state for Indians. We set up two separate commissions at that time. The House of Representatives worked through a legislative research commission and the Senate worked through an interim commission. The Senate came up with a report that was more in style with the national pattern and that they fortunately have gotten away from, for we have been in and out of existence since. Three years ago, the State of Minnesota, in beautiful attempts to get a nice clean organizational chart, decided that the Indian Affairs Commission should be abolished and made a part of the new Human Rights Department. For some unknown reason the Indian population of the state, for the first time in history, became unanimous against this proposal.

Two men from the House of Representatives supported the Indian position. I had only a very small part in maintaining the position of the Indians. The Indian Affairs Commission did continue to exist. The new commissions came up with three new members from the Senate, two new members from the House of Representatives and three Indian reservation people. One of the House people was an Indian.

I take my hat off to our Governor at this point. I traveled the State of Minnesota against him in the primary. I supported his opponent; I fought him on the Indian Affairs Commission situation. We beat him there. I fought him on the sales tax, and for the first time in the State of Minnesota, we overrode a veto on a major issue. Still, this gentleman is big enough to send me here as his representative. This takes a man and my hat's off to him.

I would like to tell you a little about what we have done in Minnesota. We are doing some things that may or may not make a lot of sense, but we have got the courage to try. First we upped our Executive Secretary's salary from $10,500 to $15,000. Instead of one clerk, we will have a research assistant and a clerk. We have raised our budget from $45,000 to $80,000. This is a small state and a poor state. These are unimpressive figures after the figures we have heard from the Federal government, but these are indications of the goodwill that exists in the states for the Indian population.

We did two other things that I think you would be most interested in: for the first time in the history of the state, we gave a majority of the voting membership on the Commission to the Indians. Our new Commission has four city Indians, four reservation Indians, three Senators, and three Representatives, again one of whom is an Indian. I think this will give you a little idea of some of the things we are trying to do in this area.

Our major accomplishment came in the field of education where I felt the state moved at every level and moved impressively. The University of Minnesota has been magnificent and for one who has not always been its greatest booster, I take my hat off to them for what they are doing in creating an Indian Affairs Department.

A State College at Bemidji through OEO has done a tremendous job. And, last, and probably the most impressive at least, is getting the job done in our elementary and secondary schools. It is here that we have rewritten the curriculum developing special curricula for reservation schools, for schools near reservations and for city schools, relating to Indians. We have in effect an Indian desk in our State Department of Education most capably filled. I just, so much, want to get across to you that there is a reservoir of goodwill that Mr. Carmack spoke of. It may run out; catch the tide while it is here; move forward with courage. Let's do a job while the iron is hot. Thank you. (Applause).

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you very much for your excellent comments, Mr. Humphrey.

One of our Governor's designee's unfortunately has no alternative but to leave right after the noon hour. So, we will give him the opportunity at this time to present on behalf of Governor Claude Kirk of the State of Florida its comments. Mr. Charles Knight. While Charlie is on his way, I'd like to say that it has been several months since Governor Kirk, by the way of Executive Order, created the Indian Affairs Commission in the State of Florida and he chose as its first chairman a man who has been deeply involved with Indian people all his life. So it is a real pleasure to have you here for Governor Kirk. Mr. Charles Knight.

MR. KNIGHT: Thank you very much Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen. It is a great pleasure to be here. I feel like a flat land tourist that has come to the big city. Florida has the smallest population there is in any other state represented here. We also probably have the greatest problems, which we are going to overcome. This is a new Commission. We are very pleased with the makeup. We also have good Indian representation. Out of the Commission of five, we have two Indians. Chief Joe Dan Oseola and Chief Buffalo Tiger, representing the two Indian linguistic groups of the Seminole Tribe.

Our population probably ranges from 1,750 to 2,000 Indians. The last time I tried to work it out I came to 1,748 and got into a violent argument with some of my friends; so I think I have to say our population is something less than 2,000 and let it go at that. Another one of our committee members is very well known. Mr. Ross Allen of the Ross Allen Reptile Institute. He has been working with the Seminoles for many years and will bring a great deal of wealth and knowledge to the Commission. Unfortunately, we have no budget. We just have gotten organized. We have got an awful lot to learn. This meeting has been the greatest eye opener to me personally, that I have ever attended.

(Mr. Knight's comments continued on the next page)

MR. KNIGHT: I'm tremendously impressed with the dedication, of course, among Indian friends. I would expect this but it goes far beyond our expectations. And everyone here seems to be devoted to solving many provlems that effect our Indian people. I think the keynote, as I see it, of the entire meeting has been cooperation, both past cooperation and future cooperation to come among the state, the local and the federal levels. It is all very new to us; perhaps the most revealing thing to me was the solving of the Federal alphabet and the part that each of the Federal agencies plays in working with the Indian people and the opportunities that the state will have to participate in this program. Perhaps those who have been with it for many years don't realize the maze of letters that you walk into when you first walk into this, in being able to work these out and to see the benefits that will and are occurring. The future potential of the program is amazing. I think the message I bring to you from the State of Florida is we will learn to the best of our ability; we will cooperate to the best of our ability; and do everything that we can to bring our state up to the level of those older commissions that have done so much for our people. Thank you very much. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you Mr. Knight. Over the past several days, I feel all of us have been fortunate in having a gentleman with us whose responsibility in the area of Indian affairs is only one of very many. He is in a very responsible position, a very demanding one. His time really isn't his own. The Vice President has allowed this member of his personal staff to be with us throughout this conference and the importance of this cannot be overestimated. I would like at this time to call upon him to make a few comments to you because he has to depart very soon for a meeting in San Francisco. At this time I take great pleasure in calling again upon Mr. C. D. Ward, assistant to the Vice President. (Applause)

MR. C. D. WARD: Thank you very much, Bob. I just want to say a couple of things. First of all, I cannot stress the importance the Vice President has attached to this meeting. He wants the thirty Governors that are represented here to have the closest possible contact with this Council and we are going to have to depend upon all of you as liaison to do this and we hope that when you go back home, that you are going to start feeding into this Council you ideas and recommendations on what we can do. We are never going to make any inroads at all in this area unless we have your full cooperation and your full leadership for the Council.

There are two very important items of legislation which President Nixon talked about in his domestic affairs speech about two weeks ago; both of which have very significant implications for Indians and for the Nation as a whole. One is the family assistance plan which is the new welfare proposal and the other is comprehensive manpower training. Now I know that the task forces which have been involved in this had discussed the concept of how this will relate to Indians, but I think that the two and one half days that I've been here and have seen the complexity of this problem. I feel that what is needed is for us to send to the delegates here copies of the messages the President sent to Congress. The legislation itself has not been sent up and will not be sent up until Congress convenes after Labor Day. So, we are going to get these out to you next week, just as soon as we get back. We'd like you to go to your state welfare director and to your state manpower director, that is the person who has it in your respective states, and go over these proposals and get back your comments with respect to the relationship with these two major proposals and domestic affairs and their relationship to Indians, both urban Indians, state reservation Indians, and reservation Indians.

I'm sorry that I do have to leave early this afternoon. I'm sorry that I can't hear all the reports. We are taking them down. I assure you that the Vice President is looking forward to receiving them, and this is just the first step in what we hope will be a very expanding and rewarding association for us, for the people that you are trying to help. Thank you very much. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you Mr. Ward and have a safe trip to San Francisco. This afternoon we are going to be hearing from the governor's delegates from each of the states. Because I haven't had any food at all today, I'll call on my good friend Bill Carmack to take over for me as long as it takes me to get a sandwich, and I'll be right back. Of course, and as per our morning session, we are recording everything. It will be transcribed and you will receive reports of it. Bill has a few comments on the procedure this afternoon, and we'll be starting with Mr. Frank Cox reporting for the State of Alaska and go right straight through. So, Bill will talk about the timing situation and the procedure from this point through this afternoon. Bill, I really appreciate your doing this.

MR. CARMACK: Thank you Bob. Because of a set of reasons that are too complicated to go into, we're going to change the order just very briefly, and then we'll procede right smack down the list. It seems to me that the important thing about the afternoon session is that everyone representing a state or governor's office has an opportunity, while we're her together, to spend whatever portion of 10 minutes - I think 10 minutes is a proper allocation of time - because most people don't need that much time to make a statement - that they want to share with us their concepts. Federal-state Indian relations or Indian affairs in their state or the state's role or programs their state has launched, or anything they think is important for us to carry home with us both in writing and verbally. Now I know that some of you may feel that you have already imparted what you wanted to say. If you and the table topics think that your program was well enough represented; and if you in the floor conversations have had enough opportunity to make your talks, you would probably make a very large number of friends by passing your time on to the next one. We're not trying to force everybody to come up here and talk. That isn't the idea at all. We're just trying to make sure that everyone has the opportunity to; if you feel that you particularly don't feel that you need it or want it, why just say "I pass" when your time has come. If you have something that you have not yet had an opportunity to say, why here is the mike and it's all yours for 10 minutes. Naturally I will start raising some kind of fuss at the end of 10 minutes. I don't know what it will be, but maybe I won't have to. Bernice Pate of the State of California, a person who has a very vast knowledge of California Indian Affairs and Indian affairs generally will be first because she has need to leave very promptly. So, we'll go out of order and hear from Mrs. Pate first.

MRS. PATE: Thank you very much and I do so appreciate you letting me be out of order. In California, the native Californian Indians number many more than most people realize. An estimated 80,000 to 100,000 are now being registered in California as a result of an Indian lands case payment. And, in California you will find more than one half of the total number of Indians in the United States who have been benefited by the BIA relocation and job placement program. Now most people don't realize this. So between 50,000 and 75,000 relocated Indians now reside in the greater Los Angeles, San Francisco, Santa Clara, and Oakland areas. Our Indian population is vastly greater than most people realize. (Question was asked from the floor, as to how many Indians were in Los Angeles.) There are approximately 40,000 Indians in Los Angeles. The others reside in three other major areas, one being the San Jose-Santa Clara area, one San Francisco, and one Oakland.

Because of the nature of the programs, the high cost of living in California, the low subsistance payments, the inability to be able to fit into the urban situation, the danger of developing Indian ghetto areas is very real and is in actual existence.

Over two-thirds of the native Californian Indians received no Federal lands. Californian Indians are without treaties. Most programs presently administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs fail to reach the majority of Californian Indians because of these many things. Most of the Federal programs mentioned here in the last two days are not programmed to meet the needs of Californian Indians, native or relocated. Since 1953, by federal legislation primarily and through lack of understanding, we believe, the State concurred, California was the state chosen to phase out Federal service to Indians. Fighting for Californian BIA offices have been seriously curtailed year after year in California on the basis of this phasing out. But the Indians remain just as numerous; the problems just as great; in fact they have been complicated by this.

Since California has probably the largest Indian population, Federal funding should be implemented to meet the needs in California. One of the Indian's most urgent needs is to have a clearly stated policy by the BIA in their areas of responsibility. In areas of education, health, domestic water, sanitation, housing, urban health, and related problems and in fact in all programs to meet the Indian's needs in California. The Indians have told the Californian commission that the BIA services should be provided to Indians of California with no artificial barriers; by that I mean programs have been planned for Federal land based Indians. The fact that through history or an accident of history, they don't happen to live on Federal lands does not make them any less an Indian nor does it lessen their need. So it is a recommendation of the Californian Indians that programs be programmed for Indians and not because they live on 2 Street or 4 Street.

California Indians should share equally in all federal programs that are designed for Indians. We have heard here in the last two days of all kinds of federal programs and a number have responsibility in the fields of education, housing, employment, sanitation overlapping, and frequently not applicable to California as they are now programmed. And so may I offer as recommendations a clarification and clearly stated BIA policy with their area of responsibility to the Indians extended to include coordinating of these many programs to meet the needs of these Indians. A training of local Indians to work with their own people in helping them to implement the programs. For most legislation is drafted in Washington, D. C., for large reservations and does not fit the needs for the Indians in California.

The state is beginning to become aware of the complex problems of Indians in California. Unfortunately the State Indian Commission will cease to exist on September 30, 1969, in California. It is sad. It was due primarily to Indians becoming involved in a misunderstanding of legislation; and they took exception to the fact that, by the terms of the bill as it was presented. They wanted the Indians to be appointed by either the legislature or the Governor and the Indians took the position that if they couldn't name their own representatives, they wouldn't play ball. So too bad. But now there is no ball game. What's going to happen we truly do not know. We are attempting to establish a line of communication now and only time will tell what the loss of the commission will mean to the Indians of the state.

Now this conference has been excellent, and I hope there will be more of them, and at which time I would like to see more Indians. I'd like to see them in positions of responsibility, in their own state governments as the governors' representatives. I'd even like to see more of the "Feds" be Indians. Thank you. (Applause)

DR. CARMACK: I think, it's obvious that we all learned a great deal about our own insights in California from that, that's very good. Thank you. Now Alaska's representative, Mr. Frank Cox. Would you care to appear?

MR. FRANK COX: I don't feel that I have to go to the podium. I would like to say that we appreciate Vice President Agnew's inviting us to this conference; and I appreciate the Governor having me come to this conference, but we would rather hear from some of our American Indians; so, I would like to yield at this time to Mr. Vernon Ashley from South Dakota.

MR. ASHLEY: I would like to thank Mr. Cox from Alaska for giving me the opportunity to take some of his time to convey what I have to say at this conference. I'm going to tell a joke. I told you some of this already, and I'll put you to ease before I start with the meat of the thing. You know this pertains to death and I said there was a colored man died, and he went up before Saint Peter and Saint Peter asked him, "How did you have it on earth?" He said, I had it pretty difficult. I had to do different things to try and get my rights and so forth, and Saint Peter said "yes," I know these things. What would you like? He said, I would like to have them up here if I can. Fine. Go down that road; you'll have everything that you were striving for on the earth. Next one was an Indian and he came up there and Saint Peter asked him, "How was it on earth?" Oh, he started telling him all the problems he had on earth. Saint Peter said, "I know this. What would you want?" He said, I'd like to live

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like my ancestors did - with the buffalo, the deer and the antelope, the fruits, choke cherries, buffalo berries, and all these things - live a happy life. He said, Fine, you go down this road over here and you'll have it like your ancestors did. And the next man that came up was a white man. Saint Peter asked him, "How did you have it on earth?" Fine, he said, I have no complaints. Well, what would you want up here, he said then? The white man said, "I only want one thing. Could you give me a string of beads and tell me which way that Indian went?" (Applause)

First before I go into what I conveyed in writing, I would like to go into some background history of Indians of my state. The Sioux, of course, was conquered by the U. S. Army and impounded in seven reservations which still exist in South Dakota. And my home agency, my home reservation, is called Fort Thompson, because it was an army fort. In order to leave it that time has passed; there was a time when we had to have a pass to leave, to go out to come to a meeting like this, and I suppose we'd have to show how long we was going to be there, when we were going to be back and all that sort of thing. But we have come from that time trying to adjust to the demands of the government, changing our way of living from a migratory way of life and hunting to a way of life impounded on our reservations. And in this time, the different administrations throughout the history of our country, the administrations have changed each time our Indian people have tried to adjust. They tried to make us all farmers at one time. I think we did a darn good job of it. We had small plots I remember my father, and in fact right in my home place we've got fields that I've plowed with horses and walking plows. We raised chickens, horses, cows, and all these things; and I thought it was a beautiful life.

Well time went on. This the Bureau says it wasn't practical. You're not using all the land, so then we'll make you ranchers next. So we tried that and they used a good program, I thought, the repayment-in-kind cattle program. I was in the army about then and I got hurt. I struggled like a beaver, by golly. I couldn't even afford to buy a new pair of overalls, but I still enjoyed that way of life. But soon that was done away with and since that time we have been struggling trying to find a different way of life on the reservations.

The thing I want to say is that Mr. Riley made the statement that the Bureau was an innovative Bureau. I was going to ask Mr. Riley what he meant by an innovative Bureau. You know, in recent years, the only thing that is innovative was not instituted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. You take the HEADSTART Program. Our Indian children who have a bilingual background on reservations; have more need for kindergarten than Dr. Carmack's children because they came into the first grade speaking Indian and English together, and they came in with a white child and just think of the difficulty that was faced. but still we didn't have a kindergarten. They only relief we saw was from the Office of Economic Opportunity that started the HEADSTART Program.

Now I understand that the Bureau is thinking about kindergarten in select locations. I said that they would not need select locations. You can start kindergarten classes in all our reservations, but it would be select because the need is there.

Furthermore, in South Dakota, Indian people own approximately 5 million acres. Of this, we are using, now this is an approximate figure, I may be a little strong, but we are using about 15 percent of this 5 million acres in South Dakota. Now, one of the most innovative programs to use this land was instituted by the Farmers Home Administration and the help of the OEO again. And this, of course, is not specifically just for cattle but our country is suited for ranching purposes; so this is the second year operation for two cattle cooperatives. And I want to point out the fact that if the Indian is given a chance, I know he can prove himself because I think that last week people from Brazil had to come out and see our cattle cooperatives and the FHA was real proud; they had to come out and take pictures. I think this is one of the most innovative means to try to use these lands by Indian people. And I'm not saying that we can use 100 percent of these 5 million acres, but we should certainly strive for 70 percent use of it and I'd be a little conservative because of the fragmented land areas. So maybe we can't go that strong but just think if we did use innovative means to put this land to use.

Now in South Dakota we have miles of shoreline. The Great Lakes of South Dakota were created by the Missouri River development program. Now of this the Bureau of Reclamation tells us that there are thounsands of acres that could be irrigated.

But here again, I think the Bureau could be real helpful in helping the tribes. I'm not going to put the blame all on the Bureau, Mr. Riley, because I think now we have Federal agencies who can join together and help these developments, like the Economic Development Administration, Farmer's Administration, and the other Federal agencies as well. But what I'm trying to point out to you is that I think we ought to come down to earth and really take a realistic look at our reservations because my concern is for Indian people, not at the agency but of the outlying districts of the reservations. There you will find poor housing, people of the lowest income bracket of the nation, but they are fine people. I think they are the finest people of the country.

I've made a remark about this meeting here. On a reservation we never start a meeting without a prayer, and we have the American flag. Today this is rather amusing to me that it's gone, it is not present. And furthermore, our boys have been fine soldiers. Just last Wednesday, my boy entered the armed forces. And I don't think there is anything wrong in this. I think it's good that our boys defend our country.

We have 45,000 Indians in South Dakota and one of my primary concerns, and I say this because I think that education is a salvation for our problems on reservations and may apply to all of us as Indians. But in doing so, I think that through the treaties made by the United States government to the Sioux being treated as a sovereign nation, they should fulfill these treaties. For the first time in the history of our State, you will find in the compiled laws of South Dakota of 1967, you will find these treaties in there. It is through my effort that they are now in the state law books. I do this for the purpose of having lawyers, state agencies, and other organizations who are interested in Indian affairs have access to the laws, the treaties which may apply in some of the more specific Acts of Congress which apply to the Indians of South Dakota or in the Nation as well.

Now, the documentation I gave to C. B. Ward, I want to give this copy to Mr. Carmack and to Mr. Robertson. The U. S. Congress Subcommittee on Indian Education, through Mr. Adrian Parmeter, who is the staff director of U. S. Senate, contacted me on July 23. So in this contact, they had me review the interdepartmental reports, task force studies, the Carnegie report, the paper from National Congress on American Indians, and the Josephy report to the White House. I took the time and studied these. The Congress is considering five alternatives concerned with Indian education and Indian affairs. So, I took the time. I'm not going to go into detail to explain to you what I have documented because I have conveyed this to you Dr. Carmack.

In the area of education, I think that for the benefit of the Indian people as a whole, we must use the most innovative means to achieve quality education for our Indian student. I say this because, you know from studies throughout the country, we are the most studied race of people in the nation. We know the problems. Now I think the time has come when we have to find solutions, good solutions, not terminations; but find and see how we can redesign, redirect these programs for the benefit of the Indian people.

Now I say this because of the fact that I have worked with youth eight years for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and in this time we have found that we have tested hundreds of students. But, through the tests, we have found that the child has the ability, but you have got to prepare that brain to compete with our white brethern in the colleges throughtout the country; if they are not prepared, I have good examples. I have a friend that I want to tell you about. He was in an off-reservation school, a public school, and then his mother moved to Standing Rock, and when they asked for questions or replies his hand was up right now. Pretty soon, this dropped off. The school official said, "What's been happening with your son?" And she said, "I'll find out." It was the idea that here we have Indians in all segregated school situations operated by the BIA. They know each other on the reservation; they control their grading system. What they did to this boy was that, when he was responding, they ridiculed him and razzed him so much; he had to drop his work back to their level. And this brings up the fact that I am an advocate of integrating our students in situations where there are non-Indians and Indians together. If we are going to compete with the white man, we must prepare ourselves in this manner.

I talked to the Oglala Sioux, Mr. Poorbear of the Pine Ridge Reservation, and I'm going to briefly refer to Dr. Bride's referral of the subject matter called the "Acculturaltional Psychology." He says that we have to teach culture in our schools to our Indian people. Their comment was this: "We don't have to teach culture in our schools because we are not going to be competing among ourselves as Indians. We are going to be competing with the white man. We have to be prepared to compete in this outside world, just like they are. And, he said do not worry about our culture, we will retain it." I think this is right.

I maintain my contacts constantly. In fact I may be a little odd sometimes, because I am a full blood Sioux Indian.

Now, in the considerations made by Congress, they made a recommendation that there is supposed to be a special commission to administer these affairs of Indians. I do not agree with this, because of the fact, why set up another Federal agency again? Why can't we use the Federal agencies that are there; whether it be the BIA, the U.S. Office of Education, or HEW? I place to blame on the United States Congress. The Congress, I think, has the right intent when it appropriates money for Indian affairs. But they, in the same sense, should redirect and design these programs to better serve our Indian people. I say this because we have myriad programs now being administered by several Federal agencies, and I want to repeat the fact that we should coordinate these efforts. We should coordinate these efforts, so that if our reservations of the lowest income bracket in the Nation do not have the income, then there should be a process where we can take funds from one Federal agency to the other and accomplish the goal. Otherwise, some of my reservations in South Dakota that do not have the capital to accomplish the job, so I think that one of the points; I want to make is the fact that we need to redirect and redesign the efforts to the Federal government in alleviating the problems which prevail.

Then, I want to refer to housing. I do not know if our HUD man is here or not, but I am not critical of housing on reservation. When you get into low cost housing areas, they have accomplished the job up to a certain point. But then when you get in the outlying districts of the reservation again, you will find that poor living conditions are there. They have not been touched. What I have said to Mr. Romney is that we need to design a more innovative housing program which would help the poor Indian in the outlying district of the reservation. And you may chuckle at this, but I was raised without running water, or electric lights, and it didn't stunt me any. South Dakota is a rural State; some of our ranchers don't have running water and sewers but that doesn't make any difference. This is where you make your living; this is where you live. So I think the important thing today, especially in our climate where it's cold, is that we should have good housing; in the districts of the reservations, insulated, adequate bedrooms, a place where children can study. I say this because a lot of houses are one room, log houses or cabins. How do you expect to get a student out of there, when that is the bedroom, the living room, the kitchen and everything else?

The need is to provide adequate housing which would fit the needs of the family. Now, I know that HUD has regulations to follow, but I still think again that these [illegible] man made. They can be altered and redesigned to fit the needs of people. I want to stress to this conference that we should take another look at housing to help our Indian people.

Finally, in the area of recommendations made to Secretary Hardin at Lincoln, Nebraska, I pointed out several factors, which the Department of Agriculture could do. I want to repeat, that because of the economic isolation in the remote areas of the reservation, it's pretty hard to say that the surplus commodity program is going to apply to this reservation. And then, if the council should turn around and say, we will accept the food stamp plan. You do not know the hardship it creates on some of our people living in the outlying districts of our reservations. Some of you coming from urban areas and cities, don't realize that you drive a few blocks and you are in a supermarket, a big shopping center. You come out to the reservation and see how fast you find a supermarket or a shopping center. It would alarm you to come into the Western Cheyenne River Reservation and go to Red Scafel, or Cherry Creek or Bridger. Then you wonder where these people go to get a loaf of bread, a pound of coffee or a pound of lard, whatever the case may be. It is pretty hard to meet your everyday needs for food. I think the thing I wanted to stress is we should redesign, and have both programs in effect on our reservation. I don't think this would be asking too much, and in this way, we would be helping our Indian people.

In the area of economic development, our reservations are practically ridden with resource development people. In some of our reservations, we have the Bureau man, an EDA man, an OEO man; three men to do the same job, probably getting $1,000 a month to do the same type of work. On one specific reservation of South Dakota, these men do not even speak to each other. And in fact, if they see one of the guys going into the tribal chairman office, he will catch the tribal chairman and say, "What is that man trying to sell you? Don't listen to him, he'll sell you down the river."

Now, why I bring this fact up is that the Federal agencies put a lot of emphasis on our tribal councils. Gentlemen, some of you don't know, that our tribal councils are made up of people from the districts of the reservation, probably sometime with a fifth grade education, who are not knowledgeable on the mainstream of life; who are probably lost when they come to a place such as this or Washington or Los Angeles, or wherever the case may be. But still, the Federal agency looks to that tribal council to be knowledgeable and say, "you tell us what you want on this reservation." How in the world are they going to tell you, when they don't have the technology, the know-how, the expertise to do this job? But here, you get three men to tell this council to do this, but they will not talk to each other. So I think what's wrong is the lack of coordination. What I have proposed to the Congress (it would appear practical and feasible too) is to abolish all these jobs at every reservation. Now we have seven reservations; just think how much money is going into salaries. We have one of the finest industrial development expansion agencies of any state, I think in South Dakota. Now why can't that money funnell from Washington through state agencies to accomplish the job of attracting industry to the reservation? You would have the capital to do the job, and then you would have Indian people coming to one point to accomplish the job.

I think we have to take another look at economic development. I tell you there is a dire need for employment. In the winter months in our State, there is 85 percent unemployment. There is a need for jobs. If we can do it by utilizing the land, and the water, then we need to attract as much industry as we can. It does not mean that we need to bring in a Ford plant into South Dakota, but we need a small plant; something that will employ maybe 15 or 20 people. All the jobs we create means that we improve that much, through the reservation, by a few more jobs.

In the area of making recommendations to the Bureau, I am not critical of the Bureau. I told our Commissioner, Louis Bruce, that I would be available to help him with my knowledge, the limited knowledge I have of Indian affairs. We are not critical of the Bureau. We would like for the Bureau to carry out what Mr. Riley said - to be innovative and use the most, the expertise and the know-how to change and redesign these programs so that we can properly use the money Congress appropriates for Indian affairs for the benefit of Indian people.

I think that I want to close by stating that I appreciate this opportunity. The Governor of South Dakota, the second youngest Governor in the Nation, said, "Mr. Ashley, if you don't say these things, I am going to be highly disappointed." I appreciate the opportunity for making my statement to you. I hope to see all of you in South Dakota. I am the current chairman of the Governors' Interstate Indian Council. And I hope that this conference will put some added spark into our GIIC. If you have resolutions, I hope that you go home from this meeting and come to South Dakota, September 10 with resolutions that we can convey further to our Federal colleagues. And with that, Mr. Carmack, I'll leave this with you. (Applause)

MR. CARMACK: Thank you, sir. We'll see that this is conveyed to the Vice President's office, and we will have a copy to circulate as well, to the other agencies about which you referred. It's always provocative to listen to Mr. Ashley.

Arizona was represented by Mr. Stan Womer, who also yielded his time to Mr. Ashley. So, Mr. Ashley had access to South Dakota's time, and the generous yielding of Mr. Womer and Mr. Cox. This is why I didn't cut him off. I say that, only to say to you, that I am not as kind as I might seem to be. Don't draw the conclusion now that I am not going to stop speakers, but he had plenty of time. He did his homework in advance, and he knew what he was doing. He also had something very important and thoughtful to say to us. Moving on down the list, we have heard from California. Now who will represent Colorado; if they chose to make a statement? Will Mr. Trimble?

MR. TRIMBLE: No sir. Mr. Burch is the official speaker.

MR. CARMACK: Mr. Leonard Burch. Very fine, he is Chairman of the Ute Tribal Council.

MR, BURCH: Thank you, Doctor I bring greetings from the Governor of the State of Colorado, the Honorable John Love, who is very interested in this conference, and interested in the Indian population in the State of Colorado. He has appointed an Indian representative to the Governor's Interstate Indian Council. And he has appointed two delegates to this conference. I am very honored to make this statement to the group here.

First of all, Colorado has two Indian reservations: the Southern Ute Tribe and the Ute Mountain Tribe located in the Southwest part of the State. The enrolled population of these two reservation number around 1.900 Indians. However, in the State capitol of Denver, Colorado, we have a large Indian population; Indians from different tribes who are training, working, and going to school in the city. In this city, they have some Indian organizations such as the White Buffalo Council, where they meet socially, have their pow wows. When you get an Indian off the reservation, he wants to meet and carry on his dances, pow wow. Different tribes there put on their pow wow. When you get away from the reservation, you kind of miss the fried bread and the mutton stew. These are some of the things that they carry on. Their culture is very important to the Indian and to meet different tribes from different reservations, as I mentioned.

I think,I am going to save some time here, if it's okay with you; Doctor, to have our other representative, Mr. Charles Trimble, to comment on some of the things that they are doing in Denver.

Getting back to the reservations, I think Indian involvement is very important; the different types of programs that we have heard about for the last two days, different Federal agencies trying to help the Indian. The different programs, as Mr. Ashley pointed out, it is not only BIA that the tribes on the reservations can look to. But, they need to get together and better coordinate their efforts to see what areas in which they can help the Indian tribes.

On my reservation, the Southern Ute, we are taking an active role in working with Federal agencies from the tribal council standpoint; in getting involved with the needs of the people. We are not forgetting the tribal members that have gone off the reservation to different cities across the country. We are working with the needs of the reservation Indian, with the very old, with health matters, education, and so on down the list that they need. It is very important for the tribal council to get involved in this, let their needs be known. We are working very closely with the agencies.

I think in recent years, the BIA has somewhat changed their policies, their thinking, from the old bureaucratic way. Under the direction of the former Commissioner Bennett, he wanted to design the Bureau as partnership with the Indians. We have had Southern Ute and the Ute Mountain taking over some of the contracts that used to be done by BIA employees. They try and enter into contracts to carry out some of these programs. This provides jobs for our tribal members and it's working out real good.

I think too long the Bureau has been the whipping boy, you might say. If something goes wrong, it is the darn BIA's fault, but I think, as I said, I think they do need to redesign their policies to make these more flexible. As it was pointed out earlier, so that it will meet the needs of the Indians and carry on this partnership role with the tribal government. We have some very dedicated people in the BIA who are willing to help, if you let them help. I think with this change in policy we can do a lot by working with the tribes, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and all the other Federal agencies that we have heard from today.

We have a lot of programs that we are starting on the Southern Ute, working with different agencies like, as in this one example, the Department of Labor. We have had 150 people taking training in keypunch operation in data processing. This has worked out well for our tribe, and next week, they will be going into full production. This keeps industry at home. Keeps the Indian at home where he can help with the education process. This is very important bringing industry to the reservation for employment of tribal members at home.

In conclusion, I'd like to make one recommendation that was touched on yesterday. Before any drastic policy changes are made, Indian tribes, councils, groups should be consulted, such as this proposed transfer, it may not come up again, the transfer of the education program to HEW. I think the Indian councils across the country should be consulted.

I'm very happy that the present Administration's policy is self determination rather than termination. This follows up President Nixon's campaign speech that he made to the National Congress of the American Indian's Convention in Omaha. This is also backed up by Mr. Ward, Assistant to the Vice President. I'm certainly happy to hear this. Thank you. (Applause)

MR. CARMACK: Thank you Mr. Burch.

Now the next one on the list is Idaho, but Mr. Jerry Hill of Idaho wants to yield, instead, to Utah. I wonder, in that case, if Mr. Ward Holbrook of Department of Social Services in Utah would like now or would want to wait till his time comes. Technically he's got Idaho's time right now. Sir, why don't you come up right now. That would be the normal procedure when someone wants to yield to you. You fill their time.

MR. HOLBROOK: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen.

As I had understood the assignment on the agenda, we were to report at this point what we think of this conference. I have had mixed feelings on this conference. I feel much better about it today than I did yesterday and the day before. Actually as I saw things developing, I had told some of the leaders. It reminds me of a meeting that took place when Utah elected a new governor who went in on the shirttail of Franklin Roosevelt, when he was at the height of his popularity. And the new Governor gathered around him a rather liberal group and proceeded to change most of the things that existed in the Utah State government, including all of the department heads. After it went on about a year, more or less, it was determined that some of it wasn't going so well. So the Governor sent out word to members of his political party and to many of the office holders, that he wanted to have a meeting. He wanted to discuss the shortcomings of his administration, so that plans could be made to be laid to perfect it for the future. About 40 people assembled and the first one, by assignment, got up and he said, "Ladies and gentlemen. (The Governor had explained what they were there for), we have the greatest Governor in this State, at this time, that Utah has had since the days of Brigham Young. Nobody has done as much for Utah as has our current Governor. He's done more in one year than any other Governor did in four or eight years." Well, this went over pretty big and everybody applauded and it went on very well. The next man got up and he said, "Ladies and gentlemen, I endorse all that's been said, but he hasn't said half enough. This man is greater than Franklin Roosevelt, and if the people of the United States knew we had this kind of man here; they would make him the next president of the United States." Well, the third speaker got up, and said, "Friends, I want to tell you that all that's been said it true. But let me add to it. There has't been a man as great as our Governor since Jesus Christ walked the earth." Then, one of the quiet people over in the corner said, "Governor, I thought we called this meeting to discuss the shortcomings of the administration." Well, that put a damper on the meeting. But this man, who headed one of the biggest State departments was out of office in 60 days ~~too~~. So he happened to say the wrong thing, and I don't want to say the wrong thing. But this is what I thought I was hearing yesterday and the day before.

I was reminded of the fact that the Governor of Utah called me in, and said he had this letter from the Vice President and said, "I want you to get down there to this meeting." And I said, "What shall I say." He said, "Tell the people who are listening for the Vice President what they ought to know about the Indian situation in Utah," Well I said they will not like that. I said, "I'll tell you who you can send and they will like what he will say." I have been in charge of Public Welfare in Utah for 17 years. Three years ago, they reorganized the state government. Then they cast upon me all the social services departments. So we have Welfare, Health, and Mental Health, Corrections, and Indian Affairs, Comprehensive Health Planning and Aging, and just about everything but labor and education. I said, "Governor if you want to send the Chairman of our Indian Affairs Board and he is one of the choicest people that I've ever seen, one of my very dear friends. If you want to send him down there, he will tell a different story than I will tell. Now the Chairman of our Indian Affairs Board has worked very closely with the Bureau. He has been an attorney for several of the Indian groups in Utah, and even beyond the boundaries of Utah. As an attorney, he has collected, he and his firm, more than a million dollars in fees. He has worked very smoothly with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. He doesn't think there is anything wrong with the Bureau of Indian Affairs." I said, "Governor you send him, and he'll tell one story because he's looking out of one window, and you send me, and I'll tell another story because I'm looking out of another window."

Ladies and gentlemen having been in the Welfare Department and having everybody crab at us and gripe at us for 17 years, I have learned that most of the people who are doing this just don't know the whole story. Mr. Carmack, if I say things that you don't like, it's because you didn't get the whole story across to me yesterday nor at anytime past.

Now there are three things I've liked so far about this conference. One of them is that I am here and I have a different view than I've had before on many things. I see that all of the states don't have the same problems as Utah had or does have. I thought they would be pretty much the same, but I see that they are not. Most of our Indians are reservation Indians or in the fringe communities nearby. We have a situation on the Navajo reservation in Utah with 4,000 Navajos, that I believe must be the worst in North America. I've visited poor people in a lot of areas, and I have never seen anybody as deprived as the Navajos on the Utah portion of the reservation. I've spent days and weeks out with them, I went all day down with them at their invitation three weeks ago, four weeks ago yesterday. These people are deprived. The first time I went down there about 12 or 14 years ago, I never saw such poverty, and I never saw such neglect. I believe that the Bureau of Indian Affairs is partly the blame for it. I believe that the tribal council is to blame for it. This section of the Navajo reservation is an adopted child, in a way, and also a deserted one. The Navajo tribe does not recognize these people with the same consideration they do the Arizona Indians. Neither does the Bureau, and I don't know anything that is going among these 4,000 people by the Bureau that contributes to their well being.

Now, on the Ute Reservation, where we have 1,500, the Bureau has too much going in the way of offices for the white employees; maybe some Indian employees. But even there, I don't know how they are reaching Indian people beneficially. I'm inclined to feel that if this figure we had across the board is still here, $500 million, is properly used, we wouldn't have any Indian problems in the United States. That's $750 for every man, woman and child; that's $3,000 for every Indian family. In the State of Utah, we add another $1500 to it, and that makes $4,500 for every Indian family. Why should they have an economic difficulty? The trouble is the $500,000 doesn't go to the Indian. If you went down on the Navajo reservation or the Utah reservation, and asked what we are getting out of that money, they have say that Utah has a very fine welfare program; 60 percent of the Indians in Utah are on it. We know what that is. They would say that Utah has a very fine Title 19 program. We can get all of our health needs taken care of, at least those who qualify under that program. We know what that is. We have had a food distribution program for 10 years, and recently we changed it over to food stamps. It dropped in the state from 80 percent participation to 33 percent. On the reservation it dropped from 90 percent to 25 percent. This is the kind of experience we have had.

We recently have been forced to go into the WIN program, and when I was down there two or three weeks ago, and we have been on it a year, they said, "Can't you go back and get us on our old work incentive training program." The WIN program with nine times as much money is only doing half as much for us. All these things happen without us knowing anything about it.

Now for Idaho, a minute, they have five reservations and 5,000 Indians. We were discussing the matter here and we feel that we have about the same problem; the same concern in Utah and Idaho. So, Mr. Hill asked me to speak for them. We both endorse, unanamously, the statement made by the Governor of Nevada. We think we have a going concern through the welfare department, to the health department, to the Indian Affairs Division in our state. We think if we could have our share of that $500 million, we could do something for the Indians in Utah that nobody else is ever going to do.. We don't think the other people have an organization to do it. We think the conditions are terrible and need some adjustment.

I don't know if any of you have seen this article in the publication of the University of Chicago, but it's entitled "The People", the Navajos call themselves "The People". After the Bureau of Indian Affairs has had its long term of operation here, statistics on the Navajo reservation are grim. Unemployment ranges from 60-70 percent; literacy among adults is still uncommon. The average level of education is approximately the fifth grade. While experiencing the highest birth rate in the Nation the people also experience a tragically high rate of infant mortality. The average life expectency is 45 years.

Now, I think ladies and gentlemen that we would like to offer ourselves, we know that you can't come in and make a cost benefit analysis of all the programs that HEW and the BIA have, but I would like them to come into Utah with their own team. They won't have to have a prejudiced fellow like me on it. They can discover what is being done in Utah for Indians of this $500 million. I suspect that they will be ashamed of themselves. Whether it's the BIA or whether it's the HEW.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I had a little experience yesterday morning that I would like mentioned here. My wife and I were out early. We walked down the street several blocks. Down to the next gambling place beyond, there were three little children dressed in rags. One about 5, one about 7, one about 9. They had their faces pressed up against the window, and inside was a woman looking out lovingly at them. I imagine that this woman probably had the family allowance or more likely her welfare check to go buy the needs of these little, ragged kids. They probably were praying for her good luck, and she was in trying to increase her ten dollars to twenty to buy the things she figured these children needed. Maybe she had not gone to the trouble to ask them what they wanted. Maybe, it was a pair of shoes, so that they could go to school next week. But I suspect if I had waited around awhile, this woman would have come out and she would have been very repentant. She would have confessed. I don't mean she would have been repentant; I mean she would have confessed her shortcomings. We heard a lot of this yesterday and the day before. She would have ended up by taking the fifty cents she saved out of her ten dollars, and buy each kid an ice cream cone, a funny book, and they would have gone home as happy as could be. There is a lot of difference between a confession and repentance

Another thing I want to mention, Mr. Chairman, is that I am pleased with this meeting, because this is the first Indian meeting I was ever to where the people who have these programs in Utah had a chance to say anything. I have been to several of the Governor's so-called conferences, and there is one starting in Mr. Ashley's area, under his charge in September. I don't know how many of you may have been to the Governor's conference, but by the title of it, I presume HEW and BIA have the right to assume that they had from that meeting the information they ought to have to run this program. But every one that I have been to was completely dominated by a small group, a handfull of lawyers. After the opening session started, these lawyers took over and the men like me couldn't even get the floor. He couldn't get a word in and here is a gentleman shaking his head to approve this. When the Bureau of Indian Affairs came out of that meeting, if they accepted what happened there, they had no idea of whether they were doing what the Indians wanted done or not. I am not just talking without presenting something. I don't like to criticize without suggesting something good.

I have a six point program here, and if they give us the money, this is what we would do. If they won't give us the money, we will invite you people to do it.

First is to become friends of the Indian down on the bottom level. You are their oppressors now, whether it's HEW or whether it's the Bureau. Next, develop leadership. There is no leadership among the Utah Indians. I can go talk to County Commissioners, heads of clubs, mayors, I know they are representing somebody and they can do what they tell me they will do. I can't go on to one of our reservations and even find a man who says, "I have got a following out here; if you will do this our people will go with you." So we have to have leadership. We have to teach responsibilite. Now this isn't just something to talk about. When I taught my children responsibility, I put some money in their pockets or I gave them a job to do, and I sent them out. Very frequently I took a loss, because I let them do it. But now they are smarter than I am. And while I work on this government job because I love it, and not because I have to, they are out making two or three times as much as I am. So I would take half of that $500 million, and I would parcel it out to these Indian communities. I would tell them to hire the help they want, and develop the programs they want. I am sure they will waste half of it, but in my opinion they are wasting all of it now. So I don't think it would be any worse if you would do this.

Next, teach the democratic process. These people have not been taught the democratic process. Then next, education for all. We are educating their children. On my first visit to the reservation, we had 15 percent of the children in school and two-thirds of these were in a government school. Now we have 85 percent of them in school and 90 percent of these are in the Utah district schools. We have got to teach these older people. We have got to teach them to speak English; we have got to bring them up with their kids. If we don't we are going to develop a cleavage that will be disastrous.

Mr. Chairman, if we could have the money or if you keep it yourself, we invite you to do these five things in Utah.

Thank you. (Applause)

MR. CARMACK: Thank you very much for a very stimulating presentation.

I know it's not the chair's prerogative to comment, and I don't want to do this in the way of rebuttal, but because you have made such an extremely effective point. It is going to just put this figureof $500 million right in our mind. I feel called upon before we all go out and quote it, and cite it, and talk about it. It is a public figure, a perfectly good figure to discuss. It is one the Bureau of the Budget says is very reliable.

Let me explain what it is, because it is not free money. It is not money like in a bank somewhere that you could give out or not give out. It is the aggregate sum that is utilized by all programs that are funded in Indian communities. Now, it includes such things as construction of the roads, the highlines and the power, the schools, the construction of the schools, and the teachers, and so on. Now, it sounds like a lot, to say $750 a person. Why don't we just give them the $750? Well if you did that, there would be no hospital, there would be no school, there would be no road; so, if you take any non-Indian person who lives in a suburb of Cleveland, or Salt Lake City or Washington, D. C., and you calculate how much city government, county government, state government, and Federal government spends on services for him, I assure you it would be well in excess of $750 per person. Now I would not cash out. I live in McLean, Virginia. I send my children to the Fairfax County public schools. I don't know how much Fairfax County spends, but I am sure it's quite a lot of money. I have fire protection by the city; I have police protection. All this is in that figure, you see. Now, if you came to me and said, "Would you take $750 and give up police protection, fire protection, schools, roads, hospitals, and doctors?" No I would not, I would say no, I don't think so. We are not spending all that much money per person. It is not very significant when you compare what is spent on non-Indians in this country. So, before you use that figure and suggests that it is a real overkill, be sure to get the amount that we spend on non-Indians for exactly the same identical services, then we will have a basis for comparison; then we can see whether we have got any money left to divide up.

I know you didn't allow me ten minutes. We fell into a habit yielding our time. I will tell you what. If you want to be generous, when you want to yield your time you can word it in one of two ways. If you say I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Utah or whatever, then technically, if we are going to be fair and decent about it, that means he gets his time and your time. If you want to listen to him for twenty minutes that is the way to word it. If, on the other hand, you want to pass, and let him speak in your place, then just say I pass and I'm interested in listening to the remarks of so-and-so from California. That will mean he's only using his time. I'm not trying to tell you which to do, but I am perceiving that we are developing a time problem here. Bob is a former Marine and a karate expert; I'm scared to death of interrupting speakers, but he is not. He'll go for the juggler just like a rattle snake.

I want to say to you personally, Mr. Holbrook, that I did not try to refute what you said. You made some extremely impressive points. I hope you will understand the spirit in which I talk about the $500 million. I just wanted it to be understood accurately, and I think it doesn't detract at all from the validity of your points. I say that sincerely, because I have visited some of the same places you talked about. I share your anxiety to a very great degree.

Okay, now, here is your permanent chairman, Robert Robertson. Bob, I checked off every one who has yielded and noted each one with a black check.

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you Bill. Am I right in assuming that we hear next from the State of Illinois? Is that correct? Mr. Dion Stams, Director of Human Relations, Department of Employment Security, Chicago. Mr. Stams. And following his talk we will take a brief coffee break.

MR. STAMS: First, I want to say that I think this is an excellent conference. It has been an excellent conference, because I learned something. I don't know who else did, but I did. And I have learned for instance, that Chicago has more Indians than most of those states apparently, which have reservations. We have 15,000 Indians in the city of urban Chicago, starving to death in great measure, and let's put it like it is.

I do not intend to use ten minutes. I intend to say that on my return to Illinois, I intend to recommend , in this way, these things: First, the immediate establishment of a council of Indian Affairs headed and staffed by Indians, with pay. I get sick and tired of the fact, that it's always the poor man, the man at the bottom who is supposed to volunteer his time. It is the darndest thing. You go out and look at the Red Cross, the Red Cross has got women running around beating doors down; you check it out and the guy that heads the Red Cross is president of the First National Bank, getting $35,000 salary. So, I would not like it, if you did that to me. I don't think that Indians would like it any better if you did it to them. So, I am going to make this recommendation.

Second, I am going to make such other recommendations as are passed on to me by Indians on my arrival at Chicago by Mr. George Effman, eagle-eye, keeping the eye on me, because before I left Chicago; I talked with Jess Sixkiller. You were talking about a man going for the juggler. How would you like to meet some guy at midnight named Jess Sixkiller, who is known as one of the toughest cops on the Chicago police department - and we don't have an easy lovable Chicago police department. So, you know how I feel. (Laughter) So you know I will do these things when I get back. I don't want Jess Sixkiller to become on Dion Stams "Jess Sevenkiller." (Laughter)

Third, I intend, and I work for the Bureau of Employment Security, to extend the present efforts of the Illinois State Employment Service. We haven't begun to scratch the surface, because one major thing. I am not going to talk about the other states, but in Illinois, I am always hearing that salaries are tied up to qualifications. The person who has the masters degree, and they set up a job spec with a masters degree, then we can pay that person a $1,000 a month. If he has a high school education, he may be twice as fine, but we can only pay him $400 a month. Well, I intend to get back to Chicago and I intend to recommend some way to get this changed. I will probably have to come around and knock on the doors of some of the federal people to do this. In this way that which people have sat here and applauded over, in great measure, in the past couple of days, can stop being applause and become matters of fact. But, the principle qualification for work among Indians will be lets call it "Indianism." Indian ethnic background or whatever you want to call it. Let that be it, because we have some people sitting in our agency who are able to read, write, and speak five languages; but don't know a darn thing about how to get along with human beings. Let us be perfectly frank about it. Now, if some Indian lady comes along who has finished the fourth grade and maybe hasn't even done that, but who can get along with Indians, I think it's quite sensible to turnover to her, one of our master's degree people to do her reading, writing, and statistic keeping. This is where a lot of our time, money goes, and let her do the work of getting the job done. Other than that and these recommendations, Mr. Effman is going to talk with Jess Sixkiller, and I hope to meet with Mr. Sixkiller as quickly as he gets back to Chicago. I expect to beat him back there and want you all to know that you can pass all of this on to the Governor. The Governor knows the type of fellow I am. I just say what I think and if it's too bad, I have washed dishes before and I can wash them again for a living. I would rather do that and sleep well every night, and know that I have treated my fellowman right, than if I would say something beautiful and politic. I am sick and tired. I am 60 years old, and I am sick and tired of politic statements, people starving to death along the streets. I see them eating out of garbage cans. I don't like it. I have two grandchildren. I don't want them eating out of garbage cans, even nice clean garbage cans. So, I feel the same way and these recommendations will be made, and I hope that I will see you again somewhere else but not representing Indians. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you very much Mr. Stams. May we take a ten minute coffee break and we'll resume immediately following.

MR. ROBERTSON: And next I take pleasure in introducing Mr. John Rainer speaking for Governor David Cargo of New Mexico..

MR. RAINER: Ladies and gentlemen, I come from the State of New Mexico with an Indian population of pretty close to 69,000, and almost six to eight thousand of these are full blood Indians. This population is made up mostly by the 18 Pueblos, the two tribes of the Picuris and Mescalero Apaches and the New Mexico Navajos. In coming to Lake Tahoe, I had mixed feelings about the conference and if I appear to be critical it's because I still don't have a full sense of the purpose of the meeting. In fact, just at lunch time, we had the pleasure of having lunch with the House of Representatives and the Senate committee members, we discussed the conference, and I think we agreed that we have been in the dark for the first two days. It is apparent now that we are coming to some kind of a summary.

I think all of us realize that the National Council on Indian Opportunity was created during the Johnson Administration. A number of prominent Indians were named to the board. What confused so many of us is the fact that the conference was called in the name of the National Council of Indian Opportunity, and we have the absence of the Council members. The Council members might have given us some guidance because of their experience in the past. I think shortly after the new administration took office, a man by the name of Josephy was asked to recall the history of the relationship between the Federal government and the Indian. In his studies and recommendations he reiterated that Indians have always had misgivings in any new administration because he said that what the Government said was interpreted by different action at times. So that when President Nixon gave his campaign talk to the Convention of the National Congress of American Indians in Omaha, the Indians took that as a new interpretation. When the delay was so noticeable in appointing the Indian Commissioner, the Indians throughout the United States were quite concerned as to what the real meaning of the promises would be.

In New Mexico, we have very solid Indian organizations and I attempt to attend every tribal council meeting. In fact just as soon as I get home on Saturday, I will be with the all-Indian Pueblo Council all day. I will make a report of this meeting and make known the reactions by the Indians who are in attendance here.

I do not think that the Indians take this conference very lightly; witness the fact that even those who are not delegated are patiently and eagerly waiting for development. It is our understanding that it is hoped that out of this conference recommendations made from here will serve as some guide to the National Council on Indian Opportunity.

In my State, the Indians are opposed to an attempt by a State to assume jurisdiction on Indian Affairs. The State of New Mexico is revising its State Constitution at this time. One of the recommendations made by the revision committee is to abolish the section which disclaims any jurisdiction on Indian Affairs. So, that Indian lands will now be put on the tax roll. We have an Indian representative as a delegate to the convention. He is badgered by tribal chairman and councils each day to get other delegates; not to cancel the disclaimer section of the Constitution.

In coming up here, I learned that we were to discuss some vital problems, I contacted the people who are in charged of Indian work and for that reason I put these figures on the board. If we need to blame somebody for why we are at where we are, I think the responsibility lies with Congress. In New Mexico for these tribes for Fiscal Year 1970 we have $12,848,448. If the Bureau of Indian of Indian Affairs were to perform its duty efficiently, and in a manner called for, it would need $37,410.417, so it means we almost the $25,000,000 short of what we want to do. I put $82,780 up here on the board because it represents a drastic cut in just one department in the Department of Education in the Northern part of New Mexico.

The person in charged of the educational activities has no choice whatsoever except to cut this year's operating budget by $82,000. We are faced with these difficulties and I think it would be unfair for the Indian and the participants in any conference to lay the blame on the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Bureau of Indian Affairs has becom e a favorite whipping boy although it is made up of people who are well meaning, who want to do a job right.

Now, we have heard some expressions here that if the Federal government were to turn the money over to the State everything would be fine. Aside feom this meeting, we have had our own Indian meetings in these rooms during these two-three nights. We have been discussing our problems. We have retraced, we have recalled our experiences with the relationship with the State people. In my state, we have the application of the Johnson-O'Malley Act. Wherever the students are making an impact on the school districts, the school districts have some beautiful buildings. The Indian child is really a golden egg in New Mexico, and I am sure he must be in others places wherever the Johnson-O'Malley Act funds are expanded.

I think one of our disappointments in our relationship with the State there is that the State legislature recently passed an Act asking the present school boards in this State to add two Indians wherever Indian students were enrolled. To date, the only school board that has taken the initiative to add two school board members is at Taos, New Mexico where I live. It did so upon my working for four months. To get the Federal Aid do this is one thing, but to include the Indians at the decision making level is something else. In one school district the entire enrollment is made up of 52 percent of Indian students. The school board members there refuse to add two Indians to the school board.

That is our experience and that is why we are hesitant in our Council meetings to discuss turning the Federal funds over to the State. We hear recognition of the Indian problems in the States of Arizona and Utah and New Mexico and other places, but I have not heard one delegate saying that the State is willing to spend a dollar to cure these problems. If the citizens of these states are truly interested in their Indian citizens, then they ought to share the responsibility with the Federal government. This idea of saying let the Federal government give me so much so we can do this, I think is premature, because eventually it will end up by having a minature Bureau of Indian Affairs within the boundaries of the State. We already have an organization set up by Congress to help the Indians, as the saying goes, "to join the mainstream." The Indian does not think that everything American is a 100 percent good and has refused to accept a lot of things which the Americans consider worthy. I think in this melting pot business, the Indian will remain a lump in the pot for a long time because his reservation home, his family, are important. Since Congress has set up a distinct organization to assist him to make a decent living at his own home ground then it seems fair that the Department of Interior, Congress ought to listen to the recommendations made by tribal groups. In spite of the severe criticisms made by our own **people**, the Indians, the only Indians, the Indians who have given a lot of time to Indian affairs are of the opinion that their interest can best be served by maintaining the status quo for quite some time to come. These Indians realize that the States are not prepared to assume the responsibilities which are now administered by the Federal services.

The Indians are very much aware of the opportunities that are available and the weapons that they must use to help themselves. There is some talk among Indians throughout the country, for example, that when the next campaign comes around, maybe the commitments ought to include the kind of people who make decisions in Washington. Let the Indians study the record of the people who are in charge of legislation at the Capitol and let the politicians make commitments as to what they would do about those who are hard working friendly, pro-Indian and hope for Indian votes in the coming elections.

Those are the thoughts expressed by the various Indian Councils in New Mexico.

The Indians are also fully aware that the States like New Mexico, Arizona, and others accept taxes from the Indians but make no returns to the Indians, and that is one of our problems.

In a coming month, in October in fact, the National Congress of American Indians is having a Convention in Albuquerque. I think from that convention, we will really get the grass roots thinking and recommendations in terms of resolutions for the present Administration to consider in serving the Indians.

I think that the Conference here, well intended as it may be does not really represent the Indian tribes as it should. We understand that it has to be this way at this time, but when the majority of the Indian councils learn the purpose of the conference I am sure they will be eager to have their recommendations made up at the Albuquerque Convention so that the recommendations will be forwarded to the President of the United States; especially our Vice President Agnew.

We are certainly thankful for the opportunity to give some views, short as the time may be, and I think one of the recommendations I would make if we have another Convention is that instead of the

Governor appointing just one person, he should appoint one non-Indian and one Indian delegate so that there is a good representation from the State. I am sure that when I go back to Albuquerque they will ask how come the tribal people were not included in this conference. I do not mean to be harsh; I submit this respectfully as a suggestion and recommendation to the next Conference. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you very much, an excellent report Mr. Rainer for the State of New Mexico. For the State of Kansas and her Governor, we now call on Mr. Charles Shunatona of Wichita.

MR. SHUNATONA: (Chief Shunatona opened his talk with an impressive Indian war whoop followed by an admonition in the Pawnee tribal tongue. He said, "God has given this Indian culture. While it is good, all men are brothers today, whether they have white, black or red skin. We are not here because of our choosing but because of the Great Spirit. It is good.") Mr. Chairman, "Feds," and "Reds," fellow Americans. In the culture of the American Indian it is considered a great honor when one is asked to speak to his peers and yet, because my people have always walked in the shadow of the great spirit, we have come to know well the deep value of humility. I am humbly grateful for the privilege of sitting in this high level Council.

As I have sat in the council I have perceived several things: one, that this greatest nation on the face of the earth, our United States of America government, has many wonderful programs which are designed for the benefit of all American citizens. I have perceived that we have many learned men of noble character, sitting in administrative positions in these programs. I have perceived that this conference was called together to wrok toward a better relationship between Federal and state governments. I have perceived that there was great sincerity in the representatives of the various Federal agencies involved when they ask for help, in the way of ideas and suggestions, from the state people representing the Indians, in relation to Indian programs.

I won't take up much time, because I know we are running behind. I have concised my report, not to statistics, because they bore me and I am sure they bore you. Being an Indian, I am a very simple person. I like simplicity. I will simply say that I would like to recommend that Indian desks be provided in all our Federal agencies; that Indian people sit at these desks. I would like to recommend that Indian personnel be utilized not only in key positions, but most certainly in administrative positions.

I would like to recommend that the Bureau of Indian Affairs continue the policy it had followed under Robert Bennett, and after meeting with the new Commissioner, the Honorable Lewis Bruce, in a couple of our Indian meetings, I am sure that he intends to even go further. I would like to recommend that a followup meeting be held.

I would like to see an American Indian Diagonistic Council. This conference would bring together Indian people and people working with and for Indians on all levels. I would like to see these people come together and breakdowns of various individual groups of their respectful levels and discuss the problems of the individual groups. Then, I would like to see the groups to come together in a general assembly and define and discuss the interrelationship of the problems of the various groups. I would like to see such a conference held in the city of Wichita Kansas, primarily because Wichita is centrally located and would be equally accessible to Indians and people working with and for Indians from around the Nation.

I would like to see Indian centers established in all of the major cities which have Indian populations. These Indian centers, cultural centers, foundations or whatever you may call them, could serve a two-directional purpose. They could serve as an Indian center which could act as a contact center for Indians coming into the city from the reservational areas to give them free counseling and guidance as to how to cope with the problems which they are totally unfamiliar with in most cases when coming into the urban areas; would tell them about the desirable locations for living, the education facilities available, the various welfare agencies that are at their disposal. This would help change the attitudes of all Indian people for this in itself is a big hindrance in the reception of all Federal programs. I might add that I think this attitude has a very solid basis, it could serve to educate the general public, the non-Indian people; to help them to understand our Indian people. I am the only American Indian who has sat as a member of Human Relations Commission of the City of Wichita. I have the same honor being a member of the Human Relations Development Advisory Board which make all recommendations pertaining to the City of Wichita to the Mayor and the City Commissioners. I know that there needs to be an education of non-Indians in regard to the American Indian and his problems. I know that there needs to be a changing of attitudes of the Indian people.

Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to add, that I think this conference is very worthwhile. I am very pleased, although many things have been repetitive. In my opinion this is the first time in any conference, especially on such a high level, where the voice of the American Indian has been heard. And, if I have reiterated some of the things that have already been said, good. Perhaps this will help the "Feds" to remember. Thank you. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Mr. Shunatona, thank you very much. I must say that your opening woke me up. I appreciated it.

I take great pleasure at this time in introducing a gentleman for whom I have a great amount of respect and with whom we visited a few short months ago. It was the first time in my life that I had a chance to visit this part of the country, and I found it extremely interesting. We were able, at firsthand, to observe the many problems being faced by this gentleman's people. I would like, at this time, to introduce Governor John Stevens of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, Peter Dana Point, speaking for the Governor of the State of Maine. Governor Stevens.

GOVERNOR JOHN STEVENS: The first thing I want to say is that it is a great honor to follow such a gentleman as the man from Witchita, Kansas. It is a real honor.

I want to talk about the reason this meeting was called. I think I was misinformed and misled at first as to why this meeting was called. But I think, today, the trend has changed quite a bit and has gotten back to the original agenda. It is to talk about what we can do to cooperate with state and Federal governments.

I want to bring out that the State of Maine has created a Department of Indian Affairs. There are only 2,000 Indians on three reservations. Our budget is very small and inadequate and my primary purpose is to come down here and get some of the Federal money that has been talked about the past three days. I know EDA and HUD and all other organizations that had all these figures up on the board would like to donate some money for the Passamaquoddy tribe. I think we will accept some money and we have numerous applications in these organizations, but trying to get them is another thing. All this money is available, but to try and get it is another thing.

I want to make a suggestion here. The Governor of Maine wrote to Vice President Agnew suggesting that the labels on these Federal and state Indians should be removed on all programs pertaining to Indians. I think these labels are hurting. I am a State Indian; I am suppose to be different than a Federal Indian, but I tell you now I am just as human as the other Federal Indians. My needs are just as great as the Federal Indians and what I want to stress now is cooperation. I want to try and remove these labels, so we can really get down to work and solve some of these problems that are so-called "Indian problems". I don't consider them as Indian problems. Anything you talk about pertaining to Indians was caused by the white man. It wasn't the Indian that wanted to give up his land, or wanted to give away his land. If we had a choice, we probably would sell this land to the whites and get something out of what we had. And this is not the Indian's problem; this is the white problem. They just want to justify their means. So all these problems like welfare problems and education problems are problems of whites.

The whites want to integrate, I know we can't like them' we have to join them. So we want to live with you and to coordinate our programs with yours with better understanding.

I want to compliment the gentleman that was up here before, Dr. Carmack. It is a great thing when a man comes up before you and tells you that he has done wrong and he says, "Okay, I have done wrong and help me." I think these people that are affected by these organizations should really take advantage of this. I think this is the only way we are going to get ahead, by people like this. They think they are wrong and they want help. I think the Indians should get together and really put him to work. Thank you very much. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you Governor. We would like to call at this time for Mr. William LeBlanc, Chairman of the Indian Affairs Commission of the State of Lansing, Michigan, to speak for the Governor of the State of Michigan.

MR. LEBLANC: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen. I just finished four years on the Indian Commission in the State of Michigan and it has been a very frustrating four years, hard on both ends. This conference today has given me somewhat of a new insight into the possibility of solutions to some of the Indian problems that exist in Michigan, at least.

I have heard from various Federal departments that they had aid for Indians; that all we have to do is ask for it. I am going back to Michigan and resubmit many of the requests that we have made to no avail.

I believe we were asked to give an opinion on the conference. It is important to me merely because it is being held. It offers a chance to the Indian representatives here and to the people appointed by Governors of their states - white people also representative of Indian populations of their states - to go back to their states and tell their Governors that we are ready for a partnership. The states do not want to or should not want to take over Indian affairs. We should be ready to offer the Federal government, and more importantly to the Indians in those states, a full three-way partnership designed to solve the problems of America and Indian problems. We have other problems that need solution as well and they are not going to be solved until every minority problem has been solved. So we have got a big job ahead of us and it has got to be a cooperative job. There have been Indian voices and Indian opinions expressed here in the halls, at the podium, at coffee breaks, and probably more importantly in caucuses. They have not all been expressions of love, but they need to be heard; they need to be heard by the people who are important. You people who are here from Washington listen and carry the message back to Vice President Agnew and President Nixon. We need some consideration; we need compassion such as the Indian once gave the Pilgram. Thank you very much. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you Mr. LeBlanc.

For the State of Mississippi a very nice and a real capable man, a gentleman with whom we have worked in the United Southeastern Tribes, Phillip Martin, representing Governor John Bell Williams of the great State of Mississippi.

MR. MARTIN: Thank you Mr. Chairman.

I wish I could holler and talk like the gentleman over there in the corner, that handsome man. You gave a real good summary and a real good talk, as others have done all day today. I think a lot of things have been said that are good and I am not going to spend too much time in trying to restate them.

I would like to say this at the beginning. I am here representing Governor Williams, as you said, but the gentleman who was really here from his office had to go back. Mr. David Bowen, who is the Federal-state program coordinator. As a result of the hurricane, he had to go back. It was necessary for him to leave, before he could make his talk. I can't say that I am representing the Governor. He asked that someone from the tribe should go to this meeting and speak on behalf of the Indian people. We appreciate this consideration, as he was not obligated to do this.

I think that you can go throughout Indian country and you can see some marked improvement that has been made in recent years. You can attribute this to the fact that the Indian people are more concerned with the problems. They are a lot more sophisticated. They want to do something to solve some of the problems that have been with them a long time. However, I would say, also, that this is only a beginning, we have only scratched the surface. I think that we are going to have to continue working hard, expand the good programs that we have and try to get more involvement, more planning at local levels, and give them the opportunity to carry it out.

Now, the Indians in Mississippi have not had too much communication with the State. However, I think that it is a good idea to establish some kind of rapport that we can work together. The progress that has been made by the Indians mainly has been through their own effort, and the opportunities that have been provided by Congress. So, Congress has been kind to us in recent years, but I think much more has to be done to continue the progress that has been made.

A lot has been said about the need for better educational help, economic employment, housing opportunities; we are concerned with all these general areas. I think we are going to have to do a lot more than what we are doing now. We are going to have to start working with our younger people. We have a lot of young people now in colleges. They are going to be even better equipped to cope with the problems that we have now.

So I would like to say in closing, I am glad to be here as a representative of the State as well as of the people of Mississippi. I think to appreciate some of the progress that has been made by the Choctaws in Mississippi, one would have to understand its history. This is a group of people that has been there on their own since 1830. Prior to that, they had their own form of government. The 1830 treaty meant the removal of the people from the State into Oklahoma. So the groups that I represent today are those people who refused to go. In a way I think I am pretty glad although they had suffered tremendously for many years, but we see a lot of hope. We have done a lot of things in the areas that I have been talking about, and I don't see anything but progress. We are going to have to have continued assistance. I think that the BIA, who has the biggest program on most reservation will have to change their concepts. I think that they should be more oriented to an action agency, and make possible ways for people to get involved and solve their own problems.

I thank you very much. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Now, from the Big Sky Country, representing the Governor of the great State of Montana. Mr. Harold J. Boyd, Coordinator of Indian Affairs, Department of Indian Affairs, Helena. Mr. Boyd.

MR. BOYD. Thank you Mr. Robertson.

The recommendations that will be made from the State will be sent directly into the Vice President's office, I just wanted to make a few remarks on some things that could be considered by this group at their own pleasure.

Montana has the same problems that any of the other states have regarding housing, education, employment, and health service.

We have some specific recommendations from the state regarding public health. It has been urged that a replacement be made for Dr. Rabeau. The Montana Intertribal Policy Board went on record as recommending Dr. Emery Johnson to replace the position there or to fill the position. The other health needs will be put into the letter. I think the main thing here is that we should give our support to the agencies that we have to work with. I am sure that they are all aware of their own shortcomings. Probably they are understaffed. They don't have enough money to work with, but until something better is found, I think we have to support the various state and Federal agencies. We should give our support to the President's office and to the Vice President in their policy towards the Indians. This has been recommended by the Indians of the State of Montana and also that the various agencies within the state are interested in working with the tribes and with the non-reservation Indians within the State of Montana.

So, in closing, I urge you all give this consideration and support these recommendations in your own areas.

Possibly with the Governor's coming up here in a few weeks, Interstate Indian Council meeting,more positive action could be taken from what has been discussed here. Many of the same people will be involved. Even if we took one of the many needs that we discussed here, and worked on one of them, and had some positive or constructive action taken, we would be making some headway. Many years have been spent in the past with similar meetings to this. It is nice to visit other parts of the country, but I think we have to look back home at why we are attending and why we should be attending, I think we have to examine our own consciences a little and start becoming more active with what we are supposed to do. Instead of just donating a little money here, and a little money there, I think we should be a little more constructive and decisive in what is being done. Many people will go home with a poor attitude from these meetings and I am one of them. So, I urge you to consider this, and in future meetings. I hope we can go a little further with some of the things that have been suggested here.

Thank you. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you, Mr. Boyd.

For the State of Nebraska, speaking for the Governor, Mr. Robert B. McManus, Director, Public Welfare, Lincoln, Nebraska. If Mr. McManus has gone out and comes back, we'll give him the courtesy of access to the podium.

Nevada is called the Silver State and the Comstock Lode of the 1860's and 1870's provided the silver that kept Abraham Lincoln's Administration above water. We are all here providing the silver that is keeping Governor Laxalt's administration above water. Speaking for the well-coffered State of Nevada, Alvin James, former Director of the Indian Affairs Commission for the State of Nevada and currently Deputy Director of Office of Economic Opportunity. Alvin James, speaking for Governor Laxalt.

ALVIN JAMES: Thank you Bob.

After that introduction I really don't know how to feel. I kind of feel like the monkey who had a bible in one hand and Darwin's Theory of Evolution in the other. He couldn't figure out whether he was his brother's keeper or his keeper's brother. It is very hard to decipher these roles. I am a state Indian. There are Federal Indians too and we have a difficult time in maintaining our proper relationship. For a young person like myself to come up and talk about Indian problems, I feel like it's almost vital to establish credentials so that I will not be misunderstood. There are many big areas where misunderstanding can occur. I served on a tribal council for five years and have been a member of the National Congress of American Indians since 1959. Currently I am on the Governor's Interstate Indian Council Board and have been for about three years. I have been with the Indian Commission in the State; I have done extensive travel for about five years; so, I do know to some extent what I am talking about. Especially, I know the Indian people and the Indian people know me. I also know that whatever is good for Nevada is not necessarily good for somebody else.

I understand the Nevada situation, and I understand that the most precious document the Indians have is that which gives them self-organization and self expression powers. And I believe that self determination is the key to all Indian endeavors. I believe that regardless of how well intentioned state people are, the biggest mistake we are making is attaching labels to all of us. I think that if you put an Indian in a responsible position, no matter where he is, he basically is an Indian and he thinks like an Indian. He knows how an Indian thinks and he is not going to put himself out on a limb that will be chopped off later on.

With this as a background, I would like to tell you a little story. I remind you that I am not critical but have to sound as though I am, and, in reality, I guess I am, against certain Federal agencies. We have our annual reports. I won't elaborate on anything that has been said before. It seems to me like there is much need for

for coordination. There is a vast array of Federal programs, a tremendous amount of duplication. I will illustrate that in my story.

This Monday we attended a meeting at the Nevada Agency. There were all sorts of EDA people. There was an economic development specialist from BIA; two of them from the Intertribal Council, funded under the Department of Commerce; and one funded under OEO. Although he was not there, there is a State Department of Economic Development who recently requested over a million dollar appropriation from state government, but was awarded $600,000. So we had all kinds of resource people. At this meeting was discussed economic development projects and a $100,000 grant for a reservation. The discussion was pressed, not by any economic development person, but by state welfare, who, to top that off, was a past Title V employee. They were talking about economic development and how they would use the money. They proceeded to form a non-profit organization on behalf of the tribe. They had the draft of the lease and they were negotiating on the details of the lease contract. The Bureau of Indian Affairs, the old whipping dog, finally showed up as the true Indian champion in this case. The realty officer pointed out that there was no approval from the tribal council to proceed with an economic development project in the form of a resolution or a formal approval. The tribal council also did not give them the power to negotiate on behalf of them on a lease. Now this points out to put it mildly, that coordination has to be done. As for Mr. Tanner from EDA, I would not want to sit here for another day and to hear all about EDA and what they have to offer because we know what they have to offer. At that time I was sitting on the tribal council at Pyramid Lake when ARA first come out so we know what it is all about.

It seems like there has to be come kind of a centralized effort.

The best example I can think of for cross-funding would be the housing program, low-cost mutual help homes funds. It is administered by the BIA housing program, funded by HUD and with the cooperation of the 121 Project with Public Health Service. This to me is an ideal example of cross-funding between responsible agencies. At the same time, the Indian is not caught in a bind of going to each one of these to gain approval, although there are problems in voluminous paper work, but this is handled by the Bureau of Indian Affairs as well as the local housing authorities. It seems like some effort like this should be initiated in the fields of economic development. I would want, in the first instance, to look very strongly and closely to the State government and what they have to offer.

They appealed to the Governor for being declared a disaster area. The BIA had no funds. They were buffeted throughout the Federal agencies to the Agriculture conservation people. They were buffeted to the Army Corps of Engineers to the Bureau of Reclamation. Yet no one stopped the land erosion on the reservation. Every five minutes huge chuncks of land would wash down the river. There has to be some kind of coordination in this effort. There are other examples, I could go on and on as long as we have the time, but I do not want to do that.

I feel that the primary responsibility of the Bureau is to develop social problems and attack these in the area of human relations. It seems that the BIA has a responsibility in land management programs, there are social implications, but not as much as we are led to believe.

I would see them involved in leveling land and would see them involved in irrigation structures, and in managing wild land. I would see them maintaining records in realty over the allotments, the assignments. I would see them maintaining tribal membership records. This is what I think their responsibility is. All the ancillary welfare programs, (I do not think that is their basic responsibility) should not be fragmented out into a multitude of other agencies, but should be channeled directly as possible to the Indian people. I'd like to say that I look forward to seeing many of you in South Dakota at the Governor's Interstate Indian Counsel, and at the National Congress of American Indians, and we hope that whatever comments and suggestions that have been made here would somehow be incorporated into a program that would get the maximum out of the dollar.

I think that this has been a good conference. There has been much misunderstanding but we have developed some good relationships with other Indians as well as other people and we hope to see you again. Thank you. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you Alvin James. For the Empire State, Mr. John R. Hathorn, Coordinator of Indian Affairs in the State Department of Social Services, Albany. Mr. Hathorn.

MR. JOHN R. HATHORN: I am going to be very brief. For a New Yorker to be brief is torturous as you probably know from the image we have built up.

As another example of the problems that we face here, which is only a localized problem. The Pyramid Lake Indians were being flooded out. This lake here was being drained down the river. The Indian's land was being washed away.

I am most pleased to be at this conference. I think it is a very good one and I have been to many others. I think this is maybe ten years too late. I appreciate the Vice President's endeavors in calling it and the very able people who brought it about.

I am going to recite about two paragraphs and then will immediately be off.

New York State is unique among the states in responsibilities it has voluntarily assumed towards its Indians and in the services it provides to them. After the adoption of the United States Consitituion in 1787, this state never ceded any of its territory to the Federal Government as did some of the other states. Thus, its Indian lands have never, at any time, been Federal territory. Partly, as the result of this fact, and partly in consequence of this state's history of directly dealing with the Indians, dating back to the colonial period, Federal authority over New York Indians has been rarely exercised. For more than a century and a half, the State of New York with Federal acquiescence, I don't particularly like that word, assumed the responsibilities for state welfare corresponding with those undertaken by the Federal Government and states west of the Mississippi. This division of responbility was weakened by the lack of a clear definition of the extent of state legal jurisdiction which increasingly handicapped the efforts of the state to give the Indians the same identical advantages and opportunities as other citizens. This handicap was largely removed by enactment in 1948 and 1950 of Federal laws intended to confirm New York State's criminal and civil jurisdiction over reservation Indians. Both measures pioneered in the field of Indian legislation.

Now, if ever there are any Indians to be characterized as state Indians, it is those of the State of New York. We deplore much of the language that has been used and I agree with the State of Maine and many other states as characterizing Indians as Federal or state or non-federal and so on. We strongly back a policy, and I think this will be brought up at the Governor's conference next month, and urge that all Federal grant-in -aid programs be reviewed and amended and as necessary to eliminate the distinctions between Federal and non-Federal Indian reservations and tribes which affect the eligibility of state Indians for Federal assistance.

At the moment, during the past year, we have spent three and a half million dollars on state services. We do not intend to shirk our duties in that respect whether the Federal gives us a lot of assistance or none. We do think that we should not be denied certain Federal programs which up until very recently we were denied on the basis of a characterization of our Indians as being non-federal and not living on Federal trust lands.

I would like to sum this whole thing up. I am not going into any of the administration problems or difficulties or how we do it or whether we do it well or not. I will send our pamphlets to every delegate here which you may peruse at leisure or discard at leisure.

I would like to say what I think is the goal of this conference and it goes something like this: I think we must form a great triumvirate of the Federal Government, the state government and the Indians, and not necessarily in that order. I think that this triumvirate must work together, take positive actions to provide the mechanisms and resources to enable our first citizens, whether residing on a reservation or off a reservation, whether characterized as Federal or state Indians, to participate and share fully in the social and economic development of this great country. Thank you. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: The following question, which came from the floor, was posed by Mr. Roderick Riley, Assistant to the Commissioner, BIA.

MR. RODERICK RILEY: May I ask Mr. Hathorn a favor for all of us? We have recently at the Bureau replied to a Congressman from Maine who had referred an inquiry from the Governor of Maine referring to this matter of grants-in-aid available to Federal but not to state reservation Indians. We are unable, in the Bureau, to identify any such programs. It would be a great favor to us if you will write to the Commissioner and share with him your experience so that we are in a better position to cooperate.

MR. ROBERTSON: From the Tarheel State, from Cherokee, North Carolina representing the Governor of that state, Chief Walter Jackson. We will give him the courtesy of maintaining a position at the end of the roll in the event he returns. (Chief Jackson had left the hall).

For the State of North Dakota, it is a great pleasure to ask Mr. Austin Engel, Executive Director of the North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission from Bismarck to represent the Governor of that State.

MR. AUSTIN ENGEL: Mr. Robertson, fellow delegates and guests. I thought when Vern Ashley was telling the opening story about the Indian appearing at St. Peter's gates he was going to tell the one about the long line of people standing in front of St. Peter's gates. The first one up was a German and St. Peter asked him who he was and he said go on right in. The next one was a Swede and he went right in. The next one was Norwegian and he was ushered right in through the gates. The next one happened to be an Indian and when he identified himself, St. Peter paused, turned to one of his assistants and whispered. He then said to the Indian, you will have to step aside here for just a few moments and wait. Then the line proceeded on.

Irishmen, Greeks, and so forth came up and were ushered right in until the Indian couldn't stand it any longer. He stepped forward and asked how come all of these people get to go in and I have to wait? St. Peter said, "We are checking with the area office."

I have four recommendations, Mr. Robertson, that I would like to make. And in order to understand them and the experiences out of which they came, I would like to share just a little bit of what we have been doing in North Dakota.

The main emphasis of my work in the State of North Dakota is with the United Tribes of North Dakota. This is an organization of all the tribes in the State. A state-wide organization which got started back in 1963-1964 because they felt it necessary to pose some united opposition to a move by the State legislature to assume all or partial civil jurisdiction. They were very successful in the united opposition to the legislature in avoiding civil jurisdiction or any form of it, and showed a lot of astuteness and strategy and wisdom in doing so. Following that initial experience of working and accomplishing something together, the tribes continued to meet together, rather sporadically, informally without any visable structure to go by. This went on until August 1967 when the state planner came to one of the United Tribes meetings and told them about the new organization that we have heard about earlier, IDDA (Indian Development District of Arizona) and suggested that perhaps the tribes of North Dakota would like to follow that pattern, that example. The tribes gave this very careful study for a period of two or three months. They invited EDA officials out to speak to them, to each of the tribal councils separately and fina-ly all together in one meeting, to work out the budgets involved because grants for development planning such as EDA was offering, are 75/25 percent matching grants. They finally made the decision that, yes, they would incorporate as a non-profit corporation and they would make application for a long range economic development planning grant from the Economic Development Administration. The incorporation took place in January of 1968 and the tribes formed a group known legally as the United Tribes of North Dakota Development Corporation. The group has a five man board of directors composed of four tribal chairman, one from each of the four reservations, and the Executive Director of the North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission, which at this time is myself. All five of these individuals have a full vote on this board of directors. They were funded by EDA. For a planning staff, they hired a six-man planning staff: a director who has his office in Bismarck, a secretary, an administrative assistant who works with him and a development specialist on each of the four reservations. The development specialists were hired by the tribal council in each case and were charged with the responsibility, initial responsibility of working with the tribal councils, each man with his own tribal council, to develop an overall economic development plan that would be genuinely a document of the tribes. Not a BIA document. Not an EDA document. But a document that the tribes had invested some sweat and effort in and which they were willing to stand by once it was adopted. They are in the process of working on these things now and we hope that when they are finally adopted that they will truly be tribal plans for their own long range economic development.

The second thing that happened soon after the United Tribes formed this corporation was that a job corps facility was abandoned at Bismarck, North Dakota. Tribal leadership immediately came forth with the idea that it be converted to an Indian family training center, patterned after the center at Madiera, California and the one at Roswell, New Mexico. To make a long story short, the tribes were the ones that came forth with the idea and over the period of several months succeeded in persuading state and local officials that this was a sound good idea and succeeded in getting full support from state and local agencies to put it across. After seventeen long months of work the tribes signed a prime contract with the United States Government this past June to operate this training center. They then turned and signed a sub-contract with the Bendix Field Engineering Corporation to assume major responsibility for the operation of the center, retaining certain and important parts of it for their own responsibility and with the clear understanding that within three years Bendix would phase themselves out of the picture and the tribes would be in full control of this training center. This is a unique situation. It is the largest contract the United States Government has signed with any tribal group in the history of the United States and it is one in which the tribes are being held responsible for the success or failure of this center. Now in all of this the Indian Affairs Commission, the state agency responsible for working with Indian affairs, has been heavily involved and has been able to elicit support and cooperation from many other state agencies in the many different tasks that needed to be done in mounting these two programs.

The recommendations I would make come out of this experience. They focus on the reservation situation, but they would go far to solve many of the urban problems with which this conference is concerned. They would serve to upbuild reservation communities and provide a viable community on the home front which would help to keep many Indian people there where they would rather live than in the cities of Chicago, Minneapolis, and so forth.

The first recommendation is this. State agencies should take as their first order of business working with Indian groups to develop the structures they need to tackle these problems and mount these kinds of answers. Not only to develop these structures but to support these Indian groups in their own planning and their own priorities. What is happening with IDDA and with United Tribes Development Corporation of North Dakota is that when there is established a reasonably responsible, well organized group, you begin to get hit from every side by this group, by that group, fly-by-night groups, well-intentioned Federal groups saying, do this and do that, come this way and that. Unless they are given time to develop their own directions their own priorities they will be swamped with things that pull them off in every conceivable direction.

The second recommendation I direct to the Bureau of Indian Affairs and especially Mr. Taylor that the Bureau of Indian Affairs should seriously consider funding tribal business managers under the "Bi-Indian Act", who would be hired by the tribe, responsible to them and who would serve to perform this very important task of not only coordinating programs for the tribal council, but staying on top of all of the myriad administrative details that tribal programs today entail.

Mr. Ashley and others have pointed out that tribal councils today are faced with tremendous problems that far surpass many of the problems that big corporation executives deal with in terms of their complexity and detail. They need business managers to help stay on top of these problems and follow through administrative details that are necessary.

The third idea is one that I direct to all of us whether we are Federal or State and that is that we have patience. I direct this especially to Federal people, I believe so often Federal officials are impatient with slowness with which tribal groups move. But, if we are talking here about sound community development, we have got to have patience as the tribes work out the philosophies, the sophistication, the details of the programs they want; not the programs we want them to have.

Finally, my fourth recommendation is directed to this conference's agenda. I think Chief Shunatona stated directly, and others have implied, that I would suggest in a conference like this that the agenda begin with state or small group discussions, such as we are having today, that you start at that point and you get out into the open what the states are thinking about; then you bring the Federal people in to speak on those points, and they you go on, as Chief Shunatona said, into discussing and defining what the real problems are behind all the wordage. I know that when you set up a conference like this the question of group dynamics and how it should work is a difficult one. I believe this kind of pattern would be more effective in any further meetings we might set up.

Thank you very much. (Applause).

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you Mr. Engel for that concise, very accurate and very informative presentation.

On behalf of Governor James Rhodes of the Buckeye State, Ohio, Mr. N. R. Calvo, Cuyahoga County, Cleveland, Ohio.

MR. N. R. CALVO: Thank you Bob. I won't be very long because this is all new to me. In fact, I haven't seen so many Indians except to watch them on TV.

As Bob knows, a week ago I did not know I was going to be here. And really, when Bob called me from Washington and said that Governor Rhodes appointed me, it is the first time that he ever sent anybody to an affair like this. He did not appoint anyone from a state level, anyone from the Federal level. He appointed me because in my job, I am Commissioner of Soldiers Relief in Cuyahoga County. We help over a thousand families per month. You have to be a veteran to apply for help. We help them basically with three things, which I think involve everybody. First of all education; second, vocational guidance; third, jobs. I thought that was the basis of this whole meeting here, urban affairs, problems of the city.

I have gotten a wonderful education on affairs of reservations and I have learned some new nicknames. As far as that goes, in regards to Dr. Carmack, and he just stepped out, as far as the BIA is concerned, the first time I walked into the office was last Friday. I learned quite a bit.

To go back to some basic urban problems. Really, I cannot tell you any urban problems because nobody ever approached me for any problems. In the State of Ohio, we have an Ohio Civil Rights Commission and when I get back I will write and give my report to Governor Rhodes that I think it would be a good idea if an Indian was appointed to the Ohio Civil Rights Commission or as you would say here "Indian desk". Secondly, we have in Cleveland, the first Negro Mayor of a large metropolitan city, Mayor Carl Stokes. They have what they call a Human Rights Commission. I do not know if there is an Indian on this Human Rights Commission, but I assure you that I will go to the City Hall and ask that one be put on.

In case, in the future, and I am really surprised at this, if there are these many many problems I have heard of these last three days, I am surprised that in a large urban area there are not more Indians looking for other things.

At our County Welfare in Cuyahoga County there are 85,000 families on the relief roll; I cannot tell you how many of those are Indians, but I am interested now and I will find out. Also, the Director of Welfare I am sure will have an Indian on the intake desk in case that when an Indian family does come in for help he will understand the Indians problem because, as it was stated here, an Indian will understand an Indian problem.

In Cuyahoga County we have what we call the Community Information Service Center. It is like a "hot line", it is a telephone number that anyone with a problem can call. If you have any problems, we can direct you to the proper agency for help, tell you how to get there on any problems that you need solved. I do not know whether it is solved after you get there, but we tell you how to get there.

Mr. Rainer from New Mexico told us about a school there where 52 percent of the children were going to school there and he stated that they wanted to appoint one of the school board. Well maybe 52 percent of the children would compromise maybe 40 percent of the families in the area if they don't vote one way they would have to throw the school board out period. And put all their own people in.

We have three large metropolitan cities in the State of Ohio called the three "C's", Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati, I can't tell you how many Indians are there because no records are kept of Indians through the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Now I am going to suggest this to the officials of the BIA. We have a new person there in Cleveland assigned from the Chicago office of the BIA in the new Federal Building. Maybe the employees there should get interested in community affairs. This way when Indians go there for any help they would know what agency to assign them to or help them. They can't know unless they become involved themselves.

That is about all of it. I hope I see you all again. Maybe not in the same capacity because I keep hearing of Indians for Indians. I am Italian, but as you know we usually stick together. Just a little side comment here, in 1971 you are going to be celebrating a Federal Holiday of Columbus Day with pay. Maybe something could be done if all the Indians would get together. Thank you very very much. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you Mr. Calvo. I hope Leif Ericksen doesn't hear that, or at least his successors. Now, for the State of Oregon, on behalf of Governor McCall, Mrs. Edward L. Hughes, Chairman, State Council on Aging, Portland, Oregon. Mrs. Hughes.

MRS. HUGHES: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I am really very honored to bring to you greetings from Governor Tom McCall of Oregon. Someone mentioned that their Governor was the second youngest in the Nation. Our Governor is the tallest in the Nation, about six foot six, and I suspect he has another distinction that perhaps no one but myself and a few of his close friends know. He and his wife do have an American Indian as godmother to his two sons and that is myself.

Both the Governor and myself had a mistaken idea of the major thrust of this conference and I suspect, in fact I am quite certain, that the Governor would have sent someone other than myself, another Indian, had he truly known the real content of this conference. He probably would have sent someone such as Vernon Jackson of the Warm Springs Indians, a very capable person. The Warm Springs people have a great success story to tell.

I heard that some time during this conference the phrase "assimilated Indian" and the way in which it was used it really seems like a really dirty word. Well, if anyone is an "assimilated Indian" I guess I am it. Though my parents devoted their lifetime to work with their own Indian people, my involvement has not been that direct since their death. My Indian identity, however, remains constant. The Governor, I know, when he talked this over with me, sent me as a person who have been deeply involved with the disadvantaged of the urban areas, regardless of color, both as a professional and as a volunteer since something like 1942. He is deeply concerned about the plight of the Indians in the cities and we're both certain as are those of us directly concerned in the State of Oregon, that this plight has come about, not only in our own state but in others, by reason of our long history of inattention to the quality of educational opportunity and training and the lack of preparation for differing value systems in a highly competitive society. I understand, however, having been here these few day, why other priorities took precedence to shape the content of this confernce.

I am extremely impressed by the strong Indian leadership present, both young and older like myself. In fact, they feel somewhat like an old timer because I can look back 40 years and remeber the Mirriam

Report of which my father was the Indian staff person. I have heard of some of the same things that were talked about forty years ago. However, back then when the Brookings Institute published this report it would not have been possible to have seen a conference such as we have been participating in in the last few days. This just would not have happened. So, as gloomy and discouraging as it may seem sometimes, we do make progress bit by bit and we do build and set one stone upon the other. If we truly haven't defined the problems, we certainly at least have been trying to make the effort. We only got to this today.

We all know that problem solving requires first definition and certainly we all know that the proliferation of agencies and services at all levels of government are bewildering to the most sophisticated of us; how must this be to our reservation people.

We are convinced in Oregon that Indians must have a voice at every level of government. In policy making and decision making affecting our destinies, and by this I mean local units of government, state level and national. This does, however, require a real knowledge of the political process and, furthermore, once having gained that knowledge one must use it to communicate effectively and clearly our determination to share in, but even more importantly, to contribute to the life of this powerful nation. I think we have to be realistic at the same time. Our Indian people, most of whom are among the disadvantaged and the poor of this Nation, need options, need choices. But, some of us aren't going to make it, just as some of the other poor and disadvantaged are not going to make it. There must be strong linkages between the state, the tribes and the Federal government, with strong Indian involvement. Here I would warn of the gradual attrition of functional responsibilities through transfers, whether it is to the state or to a huge Federal agency such as HEW.

You know there are changes periodically in governmental leadership; we exercise the ballot. Who knows what the next Governor of Oregon's interest will be in the Indian people. And I warn of the power of special interest groups at all levels of government. I suppose my voluntary experience for ten years in the League of Women Voters comes to the fore here. An informed vote is the only worthwhile one. We must give this opportunity in working with our Indian people.

I am very concerned about the impact of militant Indian groups. They are part of the national unrest and turmoil across the country. I don't buy epithets, name calling, or criticism without the offering of alternative solutions which have come through thinking through the problem. I hope that people in governmental positions don't hit the panic button over some of the pronouncements of what I choose to call self-seeking, often times unthinking militant groups. Don't misunderstand me. In my father's Winnebago Tribe the word for "trouble" literally translated means "when the earth becomes very narrow". When he was a boy, he was taught that if he did come to a time when the earth was very narrow all he needed to do was stamp on the ground four times and call for the help of his guardian spirit. This will not work for us today. We are going to have to plow some new grounds and we all need to be involved, we all need to be committed, we all need each other. There is no room in this whole future of a people for jurisdictional jealousies or disputes. Thank you. (Applause)

MR.ROBERTSON: Thank you Mrs. Hughes for that sensitive report. Please take our best back to Governor McCall.

MR. ROBERTSON: And now from the great State of Texas, the Lone Star State, here is Mr. Dempsie Henley of the Texas Commission for Indian Affairs, Liberty, Texas, speaking for her Governor.

MR. HENLEY: I had a hard decision to make. My wife is waiting to go see Lake Tahoe or the Governor is going to see this report to see what I had to say. So I'm getting a divorce, and I'll make sure that the Governor gets this report.

I just wanted to say, since I was already on the program today, that the meeting has been very successful as far as I'm concerned. It gave me a chance to come here and hear all you people with your problems, which are mammoth. We have had some good news and bad news. I told the group over here this morning, Bob, that this meeting kind of reminded me of the stories that came out of one of our tribes when they were recognized last year. The old chief called them all together and said, "Men, we have been recognized by the Federal government. We are going to get organized like the Federal government. I am going to appoint a Secretary for every Department." He appointed one brave secretary of the food situation. He said, "your job is to go out and look over this new land they have given us and see what the food will be for 1969." So he went out and made sure and he came back and said, "Chief, I have some good news and some bad news; which one do you want to hear first?" Then the Chief said, "Gosh, you'd better tell me the bad news first, what is it?" He said, "Looks like all we're going to have to eat this year is dried buffalo chips." And the Chief said, "Boy that is bad news, and what's the good news," and he said, "There's plenty of it." So, I've heard some bad news and I've heard some good news. And the good news is the fact that this meeting was called. We have had a chance to come here and hear each others problems.

In Texas, I have no criticism of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. We have never heard or seen those people. We have heard them, but they have never come by. I don't mean that really. But, in Texas, we pay our total Indian budget, the State does, but we are getting a lot of Federal money everywhere because we are glad that we can get it. On a tourist program, on our housing, SBA loan - you have heard all this yesterday. I have not met a person here today and yesterday that I didn't get a good idea from. I heard things like "sweat equity". I heard things like "state scholarships" and many things I had never heard before because we are new in the Indian business. We have been terrible in Texas with our Indians, but we are double-timing to catch up. I thank each of you for giving me ideas to go back to our state. I am eager to do something and I am enthusiastic. I am leaving here optimistic. I am greatful we have a chairman like this gracious man here who has patiently listened to all of our problems and all of our things.

I am going to go back to Texas and I am going to write the Vice President a letter thanking him for calling this meeting.

Down in Houston, Texas, that is the state capital of the world, we have lifted off and I think we are going to do something about it.

Thank you for letting me be here today and good luck to all of you.

MR. ROBERTSON; Thank you very much, Mr. Henley. Now, for the State of Virginia, Mr. Bernard Taylor, Superintendent of Elementary Education, State Department of Education, Richmond, Virginia.

MR. TAYLOR: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ladies and Gentlemen. Maybe since there has been some discussion of the problems and since I guess so many of them started in Virginia, certainly on our shores, maybe we answered many of them and solved many of them here in Nevada. I do appreciate the fact that I was invited to come to this very fine meeting through the Governor, through the state superintendent of public instruction, and perhaps I need to maybe explain a bit about this situation.

In our state we do have two groups of reservation Indians. They are recognized by the Commonwealth of Virginia and not by the Federal government and the affairs of these two reservations, primarily that of education, has been an interest of mine, and a responsibility since they have come under the direct responsibility of the state Board of Education, certainly for the educational needs. It has been a pleasure working with these folks.

I have learned a great deal from each of you since I have been here. We want to say, Mr. Chairman, this has been a very fine meeting. I have learned a great deal myself, certainly from the various agencies that have spoken as well as from the other persons who have contributed in more than one way to the success of this conference.

I think that some of my time, during these few minutes, I would want to talk with you, should center around some explanation. Since we have so few Indians in our state, as compared to other states that have been heard from here today, they represent a very small number. We have naturally some remnants of groups that are not living on reservations that have been recognized by the Commonwealth. These Indians are citizens and they enjoy the same rights and privileges as other citizens.: privileges of education, welfare, health, etc. And, therefore, we think and feel very good about what our state has been doing and continues to do for these folk as well as all other folks. They enjoy a pretty good life, certainly a life comprable to that of other persons living in the same general areas of the State.

Our Indians are good workers; they are dependable persons; many of them are in industry; many of them hold supervisory posts. We have gone on to higher education. I think we have from one of our groups a physician, one of the few. That has been reported in the Washington Post and since reference was made yesterday to that then, perhaps, that is the reason why some of you folk invited us, because of the publicity that certainly has been and continues to be given to our Indians in Virginia through the newspapers.

The education of the Indians on the two State reservations, as I have said earlier, have been a direct responsiblity of the State. We do not have a state council on Indian affairs for the two reservated groups. They enjoy a rare privilege. Anytime there are problems, they come directly to the Governor of the Commonwealth. Naturally, many of their problems are dealt with immediately; therefore, they are solved on the spot.

Again, may I say that I have personally benefited from this experience of being with you people and learning of your problems. I feel that I shall go back being a richer and wiser person and in a better position to help my friends, the Indians in Virginia that I know and have been privileged to work with in the past and with whom I continue to work with in many ways today. Thank you very much. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON; Thank you Mr. Taylor. We are finally getting there. Aren't you glad you are not from the state of Zambesia or some late-in-the-alphabet place like that? It is a pleasure to introduce, speaking for Governor Dan Evans of the State of Washington, Mr. William R. Jeffries, Special Assistant to the Governor for Indian Affairs.

MR. JEFFRIES: Mr. Robertson, distinguished designees and ladies and gentlemen.

It gives me great pleasure to be here and represent Governor Daniel J. Evans of the State of Washington. I feel a little bit on the spot because we have a Washington Indian with us and I'm of Cherokee and Sioux background. So, perhaps, Eddie Palmantier should be here but he is dispersed to Nevada, I believe, so I feel that Indian people in general have a commonality and I feel also, that even though I am from a different part of the United States, I am Indian and respect the feelings and needs of all Indians throughout the State.

In the State of Washington, we do not have an Indian commission, but Governor Evans does have an Indian Advisory Committee which is composed of representatives from all the tribes throughout the state.

We do have the recent guesstimate of the Indian population in the State of Washington; it is around 45,000 Indian people. The BIA will not back me up on this as yet, but we have a large population that is not accounted for in urban areas. In the city of Seattle alone another estimate is that there are around 8,000 Indian people. It is understood too that we have around 35 tribes and bands around the state of Washington.

Now, we are trying to move ahead in the State of Washington, in working with Indian people and Governor Evans has just recently appointed me to be his special assistant with Indian affairs, with the thrust of out-reach; going out and meeting with the Indian communities and helping provide linkage between the Indian people, the tribal councils, local, state and Federal levels of government.

I could go on for a little while longer here, but I imagine you are all getting tired posteriors. I would like to try to sum up some of my impressions of this conference which might be interpreted as recommendations, and if it does any discredit to anyone, or to the state, I will take it on my shoulders as being my own ideas.

We are also getting close to the end too and I feel like I'm getting a little more biblical. I will go ahead on this. Please bear with the way I have written this down, but I will try to be able to read my own writing to make it go faster. I would like to term these the beatitudes of this conference; (1) Blessed are the State and Federal leaders who are able to enable our Indian people by working with them and not for them. (2) Blessed are the state and Federal leaders whose motivations are not erotic, neurotic or psychotic, but are those of real concern for those of urban as well as reservation Indian people. (3) Blessed are the state and Federal leaders who accept and respect Indian people as people's voices and knowledge of their own needs. (4) Blessed are those state and Federal leaders who are not afraid to leave their plush and sterile offices and gather reservation dust or city smog on their moccasins, by reaching out to the people with their concern, interest, and assistance. (5) Blessed are the state and Federal programs that are flexible enough to meet the needs of Indian people with respect to their differential needs peculiar to their separte local areas. (6) Blessed are the state and Federal leaders and programs who enable and not disable Indian people and their communities. (7) Blessed are the state and Federal leaders who honor the dignity of Indian people with individual and cultural identities and their desire to have healthy self-images and respect like everyone else. (8) Blessed are the State and Federal leaders who endeavor to perceive and understand the various tribes, traditions and cultures. (9) Blessed are the Federal and State leaders who study to show themselves approved in understanding how Indian people perserved to cope with their separate environments and have developed idfferent life styles than their own. (10) Blessed are the State and Federal leaders who do not survey and study Indian people to death without coming through with effective programs to solve or to salve their already bent over ears. (11) Blessed are the State and Federal leaders who listen and work with Indian people, their tribal councils, local governments, state governments, and Federal levels of government, not necessarily in that order. (12) Blessed are the State and Federal leaders who respect the equal freedom of choice which Indian people should have or whether or not they wish to remain on the reservation or reside off of it in order to join the mainstream of society, so called. However, Indian people should have equal benefits no matter where they reside. (13) And I think that I will stop there since it is such a lucky number. Blessed is the Honorable Vice President and his Council for sponsoring this conference which appears to be a great step on the right path. Many thanks.

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you Mr. Jeffries. Our next gentleman is the model of patience and perseverance, since he comes so near the end. We are all in the same boat, aren't we? This probably will be one of the last presentations of the afternoon before we wind up. For the State of Wisconsin, Mr. Atlee A. Dodge, Neopit, Wisconsin.

MR. DODGE: Thank you. I think that I will come away from this conference with some honor since I am the last one here. On behalf of the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the Honorable Warren Knowles, I greet each and everyone of you here. My own particular background is that I am a member of the Menomonie Indian tribe. My own claim to fame is that I am a political science major. I did serve on the Menomonie County and Town Board. I have been a past labor union president. I have been on a Menomonie loan fund, and other things. My last great effort this past spring was when I ran an unsuccessful campaign for the Seventh Congressional District in the State of Wisconsin, which Mel Laird vacated to join the President's Cabinet. Of course, I joined a group that is not exclusive. I have noticed that there are a good many unsuccessful candidates for public office.

I think as far as the State of Wisonsin is concerned, their particular efforts from the Governor's office on down, I think has been very cooperative in every area that we have discussed in the past few days. As far as I can see it, I am new to the organization. I do not have in-depth knowledge as far as the State of Wisconsin is concerned. I do know, for instance, though, that out of the many organizations, we do have the Great Lakes Tribal Agency, representing ten reservations in Wisconsin. And we have the Consolidated Tribes of Wisconsin, representing off-reservation Indians which I am more interested in than any other.

I use an example. I think our representative from the table topics session very aptly put one of the recommendations that I had. I basicly believe that this is an organizational item. I am thinking of the Consolidated Tribes of Wisconsin representing off-reservation Indians. My own experience in it has been in organizing. I will say that the termination of Federal supervision over the Menomonie Tribe means, that as of 1961, we are no longer considered as a tribe of Indians as such.

A group of the tribal leaders, approximately 12 of them, sat down and decided that they would use the very basic Wisconsin State law in forming the Menomonie Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Incorporated. I was among them. We formed a non-profit, non-stock tribal corporation under Chapter 181 of the Wisconsin statutes. To make it more Indian, we substituted the name "Board of Directors" with Council of Chiefs. Now as far as the importance of it is concerned, I think it is very important.

We had a very important case before the Supreme Court of the United States in regard to our fishing and hunting rights. And, of course, the solicitor's office had as one of their objections, their claim that we no longer existed as a tribe. And actually they were right in a sense, because we were a tribal corporation organized for business purposes. We were not a tribe, but stockholders. Therefore, as for the Menomonie Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Incorporated, this satisfied the Supreme Court that this was in fact an entity, and to that extent I say you can really organize for anything which you please and still become effective. We did.

We shared this experience and to this day we still retain those rights. We are using them very effectively in our lake lot program. We are taking over 5,000 acres. We are developing a lake. Out of nine lakes, we are developing one large lake which, in effect, will create over 1300 acres of water.

In regard to the hunting and fishing rights, we are, in fact, extending the privilege as an inducement to the purchasers of this property. This is a new program. In terms of dollars, I think this is an effort of the Menomonie Tribe itself. It is not government funded in any way. It is difficult to do; we are trying it and I know there are two facets to it. One, of course, is the alienation of tribal property and the other is the fact that you must do something for yourself. I think we are satisfying both of these things. We are putting land to a higher and better use. We are creating a tax base for the county and we are putting our own Indian people to work. We are putting up buildings and so on. Also, we have Indians in the real estate field now, and others are studying for this. I think, overall, it is a good program. I think we should look forward to private developments of this.

The further we get away from government, I think the better off we are as a rule. You may take issue with this, you may not. What I think as far as the recommendations are concerned, is that we should go to the urban areas and attempt to organize the off-reservation Indians. I thank you. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you very much Mr. Dodge. For the record, earlier, Mr. Tinker, representing Governor Bartlett of Oklahoma, passed his time because he had thought that he had said everything he wanted to say to you. As a courtesy, earlier, the representative from the State of Iowa, Mr. Robert Tyson, passed and asked that if there were enough time, he would like to make a few comments later on. So, at this time we call on Mr. Robert Tyson, Governor's office, DesMoines, Iowa.

MR. TYSON: I'd like to make a contribution to this conference and I will do so now by being very brief. When Governor Robert Ray of Iowa received a letter from the Vice President, The Vice President spoke of the problems of non-reservation and urban Indians. Writing to the Governor of Iowa, he came to the right place.

We have a very small band of Sac and Fox Indians in a rural county in Iowa. But, we have discovered, for example, in DesMoines, the capital city in a county of about 325,000 people, a trickle of Indians coming in from around the country. They are frequently unskilled and problems develop there. They are not numerous in proportion to the population, but they are coming in.

In Sioux City, Iowa, in northwest Iowa, a city of about 80,000 people, we have had an influx of Indians from the reservations of Nebraska, Omahas, Winnebagos and some of the Sioux from South Dakota. Here again, these developments have just come to the attention, in very recent years, of the authorities in Iowa and if the Vice President had in mind getting the states involved as this urban migration begins, or goes on, I am sure that in the case of Iowa, as I say he came to the right place.

I have got a lot of ideas here; I am not one who cares about sitting through meetings, but I have found this one to be very productive. I have developed some ideas for recommendations to the Governor. I share the enthusiasm of the gentleman from Texas in the conference and agree with the delegate from New York who spoke of the triumvirate between the Federal and state people and the Indians themselves. So in Iowa, we will be sitting down with the Indians on problems that have developed.

We have one program now, administered by the state, funded by HEW, on the problems of Indian alcoholics in Sioux City. It gives comprehensive treatment for those who have this problem.

I am sure we will be developing some other assistance in working with the Indians. With that I will head back to Iowa and get to work. Thank you. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you, Mr. Tyson. There were two states we missed in going down the roll: Nebraska and North Carolina. I am not going to bore you with any lengthy summation of what has gone on. We have all been here for two and a half days. We have heard expressed very valid criticisms of the structure of the meeting; we have heard the comments and recommendations, both in and out of the hall, from the delegates of each of the Governors. This has truly been a profitable, beginning dialogue between the states and the Federal government. My thanks to each of you and your governors. I sincerely feel that I have learned an awful lot in these two and a half days.

The recommendations and the reports all of you have given are excellent and they will be compiled and sent directly to the Vice President, to the Indian members of the Council and to the Cabinet officials who, through the Executive Order of the President, sit on this Council.

We will, as quickly as possible, reduce the tapes that we have to writing, reproduce them, and get them out to all of you.

I extend, on behalf of the Vice President, sincere thanks to the Governors of all of your states for having sent you to this meeting.

I am confident that this is the beginning of a very close productive relationship. I've enjoyed meeting all of you, getting to know you, and I want you to feel free at any time to call upon us to render any aid that we possibly can.

To all of the people who have been here as observers, thank you for coming. Thank you for your patience and your attention. Particularly, I would like to thank those five gentlemen, very busy gentlemen, who, on very short notice, were able to attend this conference and who have been listening to all the meeting topics as they came up over the last two and a half days. The distinguished gentlemen from the U.S. Senate, the House of Representatives, and from Governor Bellmon's office. And, thanks to all of the Federal people who have come to this meeting, who have been so cooperative.

I can't think really of anything else to say. Does anyone have a comment from the floor? Are we ready to adjourn this meeting?

We look forward to seeing all... Yes, Chief Shunatona?

MR. SHUNATONA: I speak for every person sitting here, whether they be a representative or not. And I think that it is appropriate at this time that all of us in this room out of sincere appreciation for the work that has been done. We are all tired, but I'm sure that our chairman, Mr. Robertson, is more tired than any of us. Let's all stand and give him a big round of applause. (Applause)

MR. ROBERTSON: Thank you Mr. Shunatona for your consideration and thanks to all of you.

This meeting is now adjourned.

APPENDIX

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Stateline, Nevada
August 19-21, 1969

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